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IN TODAY'S JERUSALEM POST

- How much money does Yasser Arafat really have? Steve Rodan investigates the PLO chief's claim that he is broke. Section B.
- Israel has the second largest concentration of nuclear accident survivors in the world. Sue Fishkoff encounters tragedy and hope in the stories of Chernobyl immigrants. Magazine.
- Men of the world unite in front of the TV set, while women curse the day soccer was invented. Alon Pinkas and Allison Kaplan-Sommer enjoy different experiences in the World Cup's first week. Section B.
- Tom Paxton arrives in Israel next week for the Jacob's Ladder Folk Festival. Joel Gordin interviews the evergreen singer who insists 'I do not peddle nostalgia.' Time Out.

Weizman: Diaspora Dialogue a success

BATSHEVA TSUR

PRESIDENT Ezer Weizman, heading calls from participants in the Dialogue with the President forum, will set up a committee of experts to examine ways to improve Israel-Diaspora relations.

Weizman announced this at the conclusion of the two-day dialogue, attended by more than 250 Jewish leaders and intellectuals from abroad and their Israeli counterparts, which he described as "a beautiful symphony."

The dialogue was held in a giant tent, in sweltering heat, on the lawn of Beit Hanassi.

Weizman also said he would ask the Education Ministry to take note of the requests by various speakers, that Israeli youth be inculcated with a greater understanding of Judaism and Diaspora Jewry's needs.

Speaking at the closing session, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin again slammed Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin's call to dismantle the Jewish Agency.

(Continued on Page 11)

Officials to discuss future of Palestinian institutions in capital

BILL HUTMAN

THE future of Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem is to be discussed this morning at a meeting among Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Police Minister Moshe Shahal, and security officials.

Security sources said Rabin is to be given a lengthy report outlining the exact names, locations, and operations of the major Palestinian institutions in the capital.

The operations in Jerusalem of terror groups opposing the peace process are also described in the report, the sources added.

The General Security Service and police were ordered to compile the report at a meeting in the Prime Minister's Office late last month, sparked by government concern the PLO is trying to step up its political activity in Jerusalem.

The head of the GSS, Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz, and Jerusalem Police Chief Cmdr. Aryeh Amit are to attend today's meeting at the Prime Minister's Office.

The sources said there is little new in the report about the political and terror activity of Palestinian groups in Jerusalem. It only remains to be seen, they said, whether in light of the current concern about Palestinian strength in Jerusalem, the government will now take action.

Dan Izenberg adds:

MKs Yitzhak Levy and Uzi Landau yesterday demanded that Knesset law committee chairman Dedi Zucker prepare their private members' bill on Jerusalem and present it to the plenum for first reading, Israel Radio reported. The bill, passed a few months ago, stipulates that a majority of 80 MKs be required to amend the Jerusalem Law annexing eastern Jerusalem to Israel. Levy and Landau accused Zucker of burying the bill, which was passed in preliminary reading despite government opposition.



A policeman yesterday reveals the home of a convicted terrorist in the Jerusalem neighborhood of Jebel Mukaber, after Palestinian activists unsealed it. Story, Page 2. (Brian Hendler)

Poll: Majority think PLO leaders should be tried

EVELYN GORDON

ALMOST 66% of the population - including 59% of Labor voters - believes senior PLO officials should be put on trial, even though it might damage the peace process, according to a Gallup poll released yesterday.

The poll of 605 Hebrew-speaking adults, done on May 31, was commissioned by Tzedek-Tzedek: The Jewish Civil Liberties Center, to support the organization's petition to the High Court of Justice demanding that police begin a criminal investigation of Yasser Arafat. It has a margin of error of 3.8%.

The state has argued that because of the changed political circumstances, there is no public interest in putting Arafat on trial. However, Tzedek-Tzedek argued, the poll results show that there is "a great deal of public interest" in such a trial.

The question posed to the interviewees was as follows: "There are those who claim that senior PLO officials, such as Arafat and others who are suspected of murdering Israelis, should not be put on trial, because such an action would probably damage the peace process. There are others who claim that everyone is equal before the law, and therefore suspected PLO officials should be investigated and put on trial. Which claim do you support?"

Only 21.3% answered that PLO officials shouldn't be put on trial, while 65.8% said they should. 8.8% said they didn't know, and 4.1% refused to answer.

59.4% of Labor voters favored trying PLO officials, compared to 25.9% who opposed such a move. 82.0% of Likud voters, 76.7% of Tsomet voters and 66.7% of Shas voters also favored trials - though because only six Shas voters were interviewed, the latter figure is probably statistically insignificant. Only Meretz voters produced a majority - 53.7% - in favor of not trying PLO officials. 34.1% of Meretz voters supported trials.

Women were slightly more in favor of trying PLO officials than men - 69.8% compared to 61.6% - and younger people were more hawkish than older people.

Families to be present at Tze'elim-2 session

ALON PINKAS

THE Tel Aviv Military Court and IDF Field Security agreed yesterday to allow immediate family members of the five soldiers killed in the 1992 Tze'elim-2 training accident to be present during today's testimony of Col. Matti Revivi, head of the training safety department of the General Staff.

The decision was being described as "extraordinary," since the families and the army had agreed only days ago that - because of the sensitive information likely to be presented in the trial - they could not be present, but would be represented by former Mossad chief Yitzhak Hafi.

Revivi's testimony is to be devoted to safety regulations and measures used in the General Staff commando unit exercise, during which the accident occurred.

PM calls on Syria to hold direct talks

BATSHEVA TSUR and MICHAEL YUDELMAN

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin expressed hope yesterday that talks with Jordan would commence next month and that US Secretary of State Warren Christopher, due to come to the region in July, would enable a turning point in contacts with Syria.

Last night, Rabin called on the Syrians to hold direct talks with Israel and said Christopher could be instrumental in helping to bridge the gap between the two countries. He was speaking to reporters at Beit Hanassi at the conclusion of the Dialogue with the President forum.

"I very much hope Syria arrives at the conclusion that if we want to make progress, we need direct talks. Meanwhile, there is a gap between our positions. I believe the Americans' good services could help," Rabin said.

He described the current mood in the Middle East as an "atmosphere of peace," saying he believes he will be meeting publicly with Jordan's King Hussein soon.

"The threat of war has decreased, but there could be a converse trend," he said. Terror against Israel, inspired by the Khomeinist school of thought, is continuing unabated, he noted.

These factors make it imperative for Israel to push forward towards peace, Rabin said. He added that the government had failed to put this message across successfully to the public.

His remarks contrasted with those he made Wednesday about the likelihood of war with Syria, should there be no progress in the peace talks. But the earlier statements were consistent with the intelligence assessment submitted to the cabinet in January by Maj.-Gen. Uri Saguy, a source said.

Rabin's statements on Wednesday elicited angry reactions from the opposition and Golan residents. (Story, Page 3)

At another meeting yesterday with reporters marking two years since Labor won the 1992 elections, Rabin said the government's achievements are not always conveyed "or marketed" well to the public.

"I'm glad I took the IDF out of Gaza and Jericho, and that our soldiers aren't wandering the alleys over there anymore," Rabin said. "Meanwhile, the developments in the wake of that move are positive: There is a change in atmosphere and we are reaching capitals of Arab states where we have not been before."

However, Rabin said, Israel cannot afford to ignore Islamic fundamentalism and the military threat posed by Arab states. The main obstacle, he said, is still radical Islam and Syria, which has received Scud C missiles. Iran, another considerable danger, is also arming itself with missiles.

Rabin said the economy is improving and unemployment has dropped, especially among new immigrants. Production has increased, he said, "and events in the stock market in no way reflect the state of the economy."

Yekutieli to drivers: Run down haredi stonethrowers if in danger

BILL HUTMAN and HERB KEINON

SECULAR drivers caught in "haredi mobs ... should put their foot on the gas and flee, even if people are standing in front of them," Jerusalem city councilor Ornan Yekutieli (Meretz) declared yesterday.

The statement came as a showdown appears imminent at Rehov Bar-Ilan, the major Jerusalem thoroughfare that haredim want closed on Shabbat, where Meretz activists plan to hold a demonstration tomorrow.

Yekutieli was reacting to the alleged attack by haredim last weekend on a driver near Rehov Bar-Ilan. The woman's car was surrounded by dozens of haredi protesters, the car shaken, and a window broken with stones, according to Yekutieli.

The mob let the woman drive on after she broke down in tears, Yekutieli said, noting there were several other incidents this week when haredi mobs, protesting an archeological dig, also stoned vehicles.

"People are quick to forget the 10 or 15 incidents in the early 1980s when haredim [protesting Shabbat road openings, mainly on the Ramot road] injured secular drivers," Yekutieli said.

He said he consulted with the Meretz legal advisor, who said that self-defense laws allow a person to take action to get free from a threatening situation.

However, United Torah Judaism MK Avraham Ravitz said yesterday Yekutieli's words amount to "incitement to murder" and "he should be jailed."

"What makes it all the more despicable is that it is coming from a person who waves the banner of free speech and civil rights," Ravitz said. "But for Yekutieli this is only applicable if the person has round, wire glasses and is wearing an earring," Ravitz said. He said the police should investigate the matter.

Leading Eda Haredit activist Yehuda Meshi-Zehav said he is not surprised by Yekutieli's words. "We have known for a long time that the hatred of the left toward the haredim equals the hatred they have for our worst enemies."

Meshi-Zehav said the Eda Haredit, the loose organization of haredi groups that do not take money from the state, met yesterday to discuss the demand for Rehov Bar-Ilan's closing and decided to become involved.

Last week, the demonstrations to close Rehov Bar-Ilan were organized by an amorphous "action committee." This is significant, according to Meshi-Zehav, because many more people would heed an Eda Haredit call to demonstrate than would heed a similar call put out by an "action committee."

He said the Eda Haredit's involvement in the issue would not be felt until the demonstrations to close the street, tentatively scheduled for next Shabbat.

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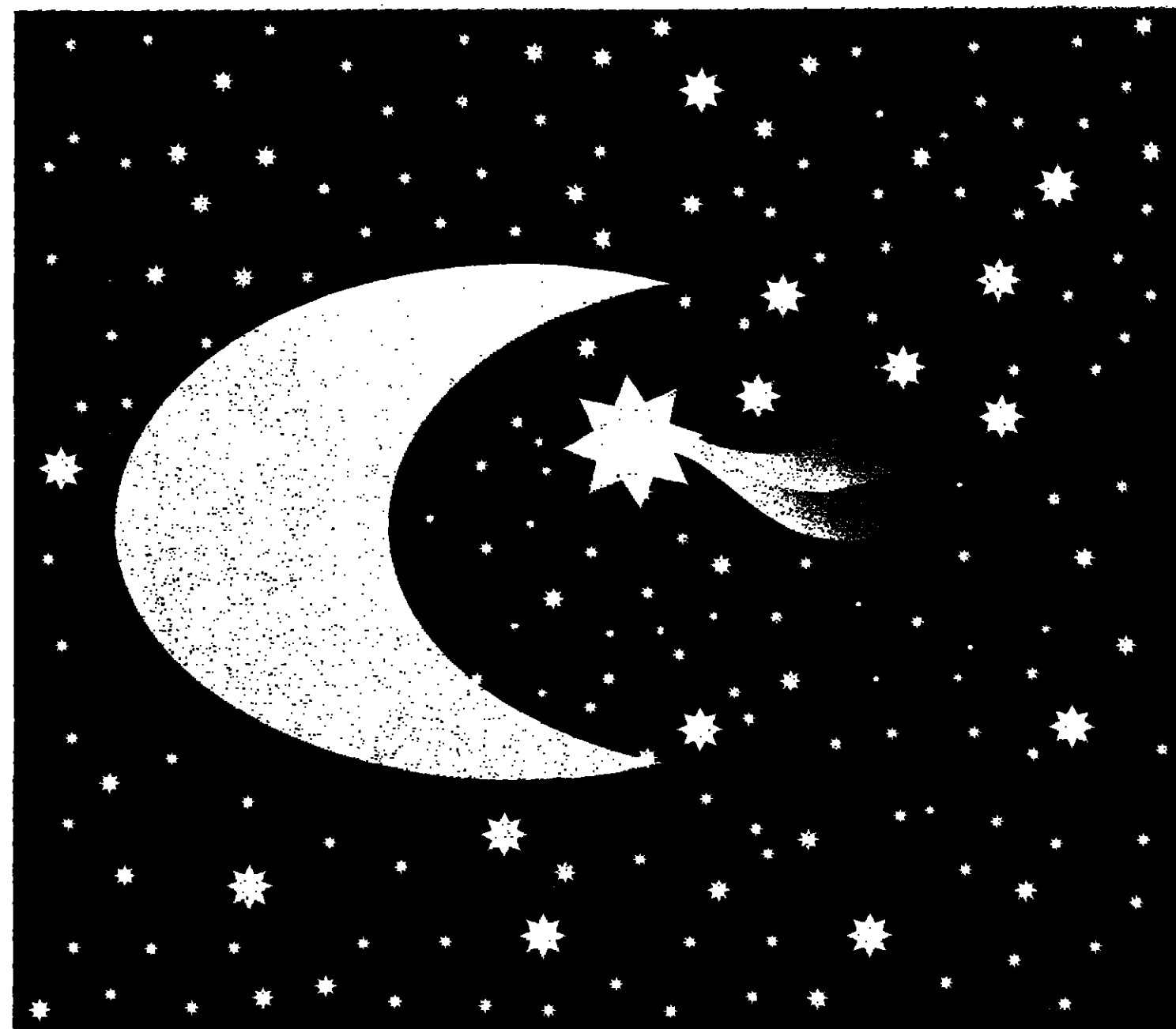
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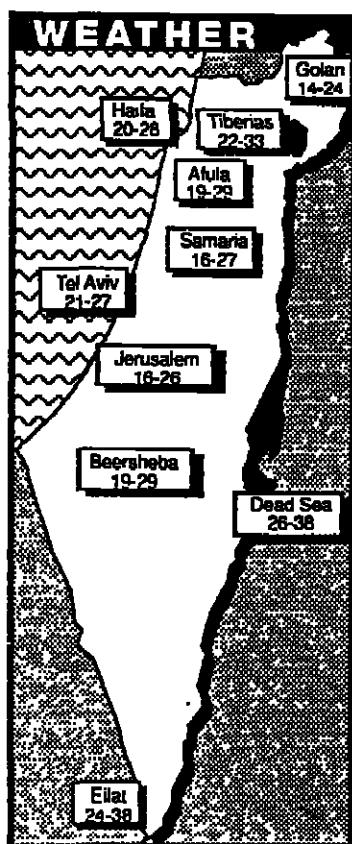
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Berlin	12	54	10	14	10	clear
Buenos Aires	18	64	16	20	10	clear
Chicago	22	72	20	24	10	clear
Copenhagen	12	54	10	14	10	clear
Frankfurt	12	54	10	14	10	clear
Geneva	12	54	10	14	10	clear
Hamburg	12	54	10	14	10	clear
Hong Kong	28	82	26	30	10	clear
Los Angeles	22	72	20	24	10	clear
London	12	54	10	14	10	clear
Madrid	12	54	10	14	10	clear
Moscow	12	54	10	14	10	clear
New York	22	72	20	24	10	clear
Paris	12	54	10	14	10	clear
Rome	12	54	10	14	10	clear
Sydney	22	72	20	24	10	clear
Tokyo	22	72	20	24	10	clear
Vienna	12	54	10	14	10	clear

No Malaysia ties for now
Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said yesterday that his government has decided not to establish diplomatic relations with Israel for the time being.

He said the cabinet "wants to wait and see how sincere Israel is in adhering to the peace agreement it signed with Palestine Liberation Organization before making a decision."

Winning numbers
In the Paysis Hazzak drawing last night, the following tickets won prizes:

Ticket number 647356 won NIS 1 million, and ticket number 697224 won the Honda car.

NIS 5,000 was won by tickets 740370, 009568, 284219, 479647, 730573, 805907, 186276, 664461, 769310, 166055, 742292, 101326, 559478, 707227, 373919, 024229, 675939, 292357, 198574, 883746, 559483, 273764, 630592, 300525, 773895, 761545.

Tickets that ended in the following five numbers won NIS 1,000: 58117, 65772, 47029, 25165, 06310, 79653, 45238, 35547, 98490, 85331, 35656, 23770, 01500, 95114, 92408, 77116, 26655, 33668, 49153. NIS 100 was won by tickets ending in 876, 615, 248, 637. NIS 20 was won by tickets ending in 88, 78, 52, 43. Tickets ending in 20, 49, 74, 48, 72, 07, won NIS 10, while tickets ending in 5 won NIS 7.

Winning cards
In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the ace of spades, ace of hearts, 10 of diamonds and queen of clubs.

2 gunmen killed in security zone

DAVID RUDGE

IDF soldiers shot and killed two Palestinian gunmen and reportedly captured a third after wounding him in a clash before dawn yesterday in the western sector of the security zone.

Elsewhere, a local Hizbullah leader was killed when his car exploded near his home, and the Lebanese Army said one of its soldiers was killed and another wounded by IDF shelling in separate incidents north of the zone.

News agencies reported there had been three gunmen in the squad, members of George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and that one of them had been captured after being wounded. The IDF declined to comment on this report, but IDF sources said it appeared they were on their way to attack IDF and South Lebanese Army targets in the zone.

Military sources confirmed that two Palestinians, believed to be from the Habash group, had been

killed by IDF gunners early yesterday near Shama Village, north of Nakoura, in the western sector of the zone.

The sources said IDF troops had spotted the gunmen and opened fire, and that the bodies were discovered during a search of the area later in the morning.

The gunmen were equipped with an explosive device, two Kalashnikov assault rifles and several hand grenades, and food and water. The arms were destroyed by SLA sappers.

OC Northern Command Maj. Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai and senior officers yesterday toured the Beaufort Castle area of the zone, where First Sgt. Noam Simha was killed and three other Nahal Brigade soldiers were wounded on Monday when Hizbullah ambushed an IDF convoy.

Mordechai spoke with officers and soldiers and observed troops in action.

Mordechai earlier charged that Hizbullah had violated the Operation Accountability understanding by using a residential area as cover for the attack on the convoy.

The terrorists had fired Sagger anti-tank missiles at the convoy from the cover of homes in Tibnit Village north of the zone, he said at Haifa's Rambam Hospital Wednesday on a visit to troops wounded in the incident.

He said Hizbullah had suffered serious blows recently and is no longer as capable as it had been of stepping up its activities against the zone.

The Hebrew daily *Ma'ariv* reported yesterday that the IDF had been conducting secret missions against Hizbullah targets north of the zone, in addition to the successful air raids and more pinpoint artillery fire.

The report said the IDF had changed its tactics and is taking a

more energetic role in initiating action against Hizbullah, in some cases using the same methods the extremist organization uses against IDF and SLA troops in the zone. Neither the IDF nor Hizbullah, however, is interested in publicizing the outcome of these secret operations, the report said.

Local Hizbullah leader Mohammed Sayed Mortada, 30, died when his car blew up while he was driving it near his home in Zawar Village, north of the zone. No organization claimed responsibility for the attack.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese Army said one of its soldiers was killed and another wounded when a 155 mm artillery shell fired by IDF gunners hit their position near Nabatiya, north of the zone. Reports from Lebanon said the incident occurred shortly after Wednesday midnight.

Sporadic IDF shelling was reported yesterday at targets in the eastern sector, although there were no reports of any casualties.



Freed Palestinian prisoners who must stay in Jericho demonstrate as they pass an IDF truck transporting Armored Personnel Carriers in the autonomous area. (Reuters)

Arafat makes more demands before Jericho arrival

TUNIS (AP) — PLO leader Yasser Arafat has set new conditions he wants met before coming to Jericho, sources said Thursday.

Arafat also is stepping up efforts to secure the \$42 million donors have promised to transfer to the Palestinian Authority through August.

The demands, submitted "through proper channels," include the early dispatch of international observers in the territories, the freeing of all Palestinians in Israeli jails and the lifting of restraints on the movement of the PLO officials, PLO sources and Western diplomats said.

In an interview with the BBC yesterday, Nabil Shaath, said he had advised Arafat not to move until the conditions were met. During a meeting yesterday in the Tunis suburb of Carthage with the 12 European Union ambassadors, Arafat reiterated his demand that the money start flowing before he moves to Jericho.

Arafat stressed "the money is needed to make the Palestinian Authority shoulder its responsibilities," according to the PLO news agency Wafa.

However, Greek Ambassador Constantine Pezados told Arafat on behalf of the other envoys he should meet the World Bank's conditions for receiving the funds.

The World Bank demands accountability and public reporting on the use of the funds and also has made certain conditions regarding salary structures over which Arafat apparently has balked.

Police reseal eastern J'lem home

BILL HUTMAN

POLICE converged on the Jebel Mukaber neighborhood in eastern Jerusalem to reseal a terrorist's home, and warned that other openings of sealed homes in the capital would not be tolerated.

But the Palestinian activists behind the unsealing of the home on Wednesday, and dozens of others earlier in the week, vowed to continue their campaign to open homes sealed by the security forces.

In Jebel Mukaber, members of the Alfan family looked on quietly as a police crew resealed the first floor of their home. The two rooms resealed had served as the family's home before one of the sons, Mohammed, was sentenced to a life term in 1971 for terror activity. The family then added the second floor, and moved in there.

Mohammed Alfan was released in the Jibril exchange nearly 10

years ago. An order to open the first floor has never been issued, however, making it illegal to do so, according to police.

Two people, Joe Zogby of Washington DC, and James Dykstra, 21, a human rights volunteer from Toronto, Canada, were arrested and carried out of the house by police when they refused to leave the site.

Zogby is the son of James Zogby, director of the Arab-American Institute in Washington, a key lobbyist on Middle Eastern issues. He is here on a university grant to study detention conditions.

"We came home from work and find these people from the non-violent organization here. We had nothing to do with it," said Walid Alfan, 35, a brother of the convicted terrorist.

But police rejected the family's argument that it was not them, but activists affiliated with the Palestinian Center for the Study of Non-Violence, who had opened the sealed rooms. Television footage showed the family members encouraging the activists and even giving them refreshments, a senior police officer said.

Four family members, including Mohammed and his 80-year-old father were detained by police Wednesday night. Today, they will be remanded in Jerusalem Magistrates Court on charges of disturbing the peace and violating an army order.

Two activists turned themselves in to police yesterday afternoon. Walid Alfan said the family was angry with both the Palestinians for opening the house and getting them into trouble, and the Israelis for arresting several family members and resealing the home.

Leket is acting chairman of the Jewish Agency. Deputy Minister Yossi Beilin has suggested dismantling the Jewish Agency. Are you pleased with the way the agency operates?

Absolutely not. I believe that there is room for a great deal of change. But not just because the framework was established a long time ago.

So you, too, would prefer a new organizational framework?

No, the changes have to come inside the existing framework. Beilin's proposals are based on lack of knowledge and misunderstanding. The framework for the agency is anchored in a legal agreement with the State of Israel. If he makes a suggestion, he must explain why.

Perhaps there is something new to be learned from his proposal?

The agency has brought half a million Jews on aliyah in the past five years, with great efficacy, and despite difficulties. Why do we need to replace it? We have also made inroads with Jewish education, summer camps and bringing youth here. Beilin's suggestion to give free trips to children in the Diaspora is very strange. We have 250,000 children in Israel and large numbers of olim who are living below the headline. How can we give up

funds from abroad? What changes would you like to see inside the existing framework?

Enlarging the partnership between Israel and the Diaspora. Instead of a system which unites political Zionism with world philanthropy, I'd like to see a broad representation of the Israeli public and a pluralistic leadership on the part of the Jewish communities.

How do you plan to get to a wider public?

We're discussing that now. It's a process, but it must involve the Israeli government, the Jewish Agency and the WZO. The fund-raisers have been pressing for the end to political department heads...

We want to depoliticize the framework. It should include academics, economists and businessmen, youth, voluntary organizations. In the Diaspora, in addition to fund-raisers, we'd like to see personalities and heads of organizations in the broader sense. This will involve structural changes. We have agreed to do away with political heads of departments from 1997.

Do you see yourself as the next chairman of the agency?

Does anyone think I don't? *Bushva Tsar*

Murder may be revenge act by family of 'collaborator'

JON IMMANUEL

GAZA police found the bullet-riddled body of a Hamas activist yesterday, the victim of what may have been a revenge killing for the murder of a collaborator.

Nasser Sallouha, 22, was kidnapped from his home in Gaza City on Wednesday. His body was found in Beit Lahia then taken to Shifa Hospital, where angry crowds demanded revenge.

Some residents said they believe the family of Abdel-Fatah Alwan, killed three months ago by Izzadin Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas, was responsible for the murder. They identified Sallouha as a member of Kassam.

The murder threatens to undo an assurance by Hamas to press Kassam to leave the pursuit of alleged collaborators to the police.

Police said they have arrested some 40 freed life-term prisoners with Kalashnikov rifles so they could protect themselves from families of slain collaborators. It is the first time the police and Fatah activists have admitted arming former prisoners who are not policemen.

"We are prepared to react to attempts by some collaborator families to avenge their sons, who sold their land and their people's dignity," Kassam said later in a statement.

Palestinian security police last week arrested several people in Rafiah and Abasan, near Khan Yunis, for trying to attack recently freed prisoners who had signed commitments to stay in Gaza after

their release. The relatives of slain collaborators were themselves compelled to sign pledges not to seek vengeance, said Rashid Abu Shubac, a deputy in the Preventive Security Apparatus.

"People want to take revenge," said Abu Shubac, explaining that "dozens" of freed prisoners had been armed. Abu Shubac, expelled in 1988 for leading collaborator-hunting Fatah Black Panthers in Gaza, returned in April.

Hamas is not the only faction complaining. A statement published Wednesday by rebellious Fatah activists said the police are not doing enough to protect them from "the families of collaborators and traitors executed during the 'blessed intifada' who have dared to shoot our wanted brothers who came back recently."

The leaflet was written by supporters of Sami Abu Samhanna, a former Fatah activist in Gaza, who resigned from Fatah. Abu Samhanna was jailed for a day Tuesday after blocking a road with nine followers, claiming Netzarim settlers had shot at his car. His swift release came after intense pressure from his large family and numerous supporters, Gaza sources said.

Meanwhile, hundreds of Palestinian prisoners halted a two-day hunger strike yesterday, the Prison Service said. Palestinian sources said the fast was suspended for three days, pending talks between Israel and the PLO next week on demands they be set free.

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Closing Session will be held on Thursday, June 30, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

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Jordan: Ease bridge restrictions

AMMAN (Reuters) — Jordan yesterday urged the world community to persuade Israel to make it easier for Palestinians to enter the territories and the self-rule areas via the Allenby Bridge.

Interior Minister Salamah Hammad said there had been no change in Israeli policy on the bridge crossing since the start of Palestinian self-rule.

More Palestinians use the bridge during summer. This causes massive congestion at the crossing and only around 2,000 Palestinians manage to enter each day.

Hammad demanded that Israel extend working hours on its side — currently seven hours a day, six days a week — and ease bureaucratic procedures.

"We are talking about a new era of Israel's dealing with the Palestinians after the start of self-rule, and their letting in of Palestinian policemen and PLO leaders," he said, but he added: "Nothing has changed on the bridge."

Officials said Jordan had raised these demands during peace talks. Elise Shazar, the civil administration spokeswoman, said in response that: "Given today's traffic there is no delay for any person who wants to come across. The bridge is in a state of preparation for the full implementation of those articles of the Cairo agreement which concern the bridge and this will include longer opening hours."

Jon Immanuel contributed to this report.

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Ben Yehuda Tel Aviv



Home Front Command instructor Gabi Feingold checks the mask of a team member yesterday during an exercise with the Environment Ministry's dangerous materials unit. (IDF Spokesman)

'Bomb' at Yehud school is prank

RAINE MARCUS

THE matriculation (bagrut) examination in mathematics went ahead as scheduled at a Yehud high school yesterday morning after police discovered that a "bomb," apparently planted by pupils in an attempt to postpone the exam, was a hoax.

Police were still trying to determine who attached wires, batteries and pipes to the main gas supply system of the Yehud Comprehensive High School. At around 8:30 yesterday morning, the janitor of the school, Avraham Aruch, discovered wires, pipes, batteries and what looked like sticks of dynamite attached to the school's gas cylinders, which contain around 3,000 liters of gas.

"I got goose pimples when I saw it. I'd never seen anything like it," said Aruch. "I made a routine search of the schoolyard, as I do every morning, when suddenly I noticed wires, pipes and batteries lying on top of one of the cylinders

of the main gas supply system." Aruch closed the gates of the school, and told pupils in the area to leave. Teachers alerted the police, who arrived in full force, together with sappers and firefighters.

At first, sappers believed the bomb to be genuine, and evacuated around 50 pupils and teachers. Residents of the street were told not to leave their homes. Sappers realized that the bomb was a fake, however, when they found themselves unable to conduct controlled explosions.

After the practical joke was discovered, the exam went ahead. "A similar incident occurred 10 years ago," said Dr. Yosef Meshulam, the principal of the school.

Then, two high school pupils, one from the Yehud school and the other from Ramat Gan, phoned police to tell them that a bomb had been planted at the

school. The two were caught, said Meshulam, and as a punishment the Yehud student was forced to take all his bagrut examinations in Jerusalem.

"I intend to convene the pupils and explain the severity of this incident," said Dr. Meshulam. "We don't need another intifada here. We have enough troubles."

Pupils seemed indifferent and even amused over the prank. "I neither condone nor support this act," said Yaniv Hen. "But I don't know who did it."

His friend Ron was more concerned about the bagrut exam. "I hope they will not give us a different exam paper now," he quipped.

Police said they are treating the incident very seriously. "Even though it was a teenage prank, we live in dangerous and very sensitive times," said an officer. "The perpetrators forced the deployment of massive numbers of police."

Petition: 'Exceptions panel' doesn't allow for exceptions

EVELYN GORDON

THE government's "exceptions committee," set up to approve exceptions to the building freeze in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, has set criteria which exclude any possibility of such exceptions, a petition to the High Court of Justice charged yesterday.

The petition followed the committee's decision not to allow building in Revava and Avnei Hefetz. In both cases, it rejected the requests because "the circumstances in which the decision to stop construction was made have not changed."

Attorney Moshe Glick argued this was absurd, since no one ever said the circumstances had changed. What Revava and Avnei Hefetz did claim was that the building was necessary to prevent "the destruction of the settlements" and to allow people to continue to live

there under "reasonable conditions" - the criteria the court had established for exceptions in response to a 1992 petition by the same settlements, which led to the committee's establishment. The committee never investigated these claims at all, Glick said.

As proof that the committee never looked into the details of the proposals, Glick pointed to a series of factual errors in its decision. For instance, the committee said it rejected Revava's proposal to widen its access road. However, Glick said, Revava doesn't have an access road to widen. What it wanted was permission to build one.

"The meaning of the respondents' arbitrariness is unequivocal - the 'indirect evacuation' of the settlements [by making them unlivable]," he wrote.

Shahal launches 'ideological' group

SARAH HONIG

POLICE Minister Moshe Shahal launched a new "ideological circle" in the Labor party last night, in what is widely regarded in the party as a vehicle to advance his candidacy to succeed Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin as Labor's leader.

Shahal hotly denied this. He calls his new group "Content in Politics," and insists that "its aim is to reintroduce content, ideology and commitment to politics, lest it become the politics of the TV camera only, in which the candidates would have to be photogenic, and never mind what they stand for. I am against the breaking up of ideologies and political parties. The parties just have to be re-infused with content."

However, Labor insiders said a war of succession in the party has already begun, and Shahal has to position himself for the contest now. No big names showed up at Shahal's first function yesterday, but the group did distribute hats with Shahal's name boldly printed on them.

Clalit: Checks for independent MDs in the mail

JUDY SIEGEL

Some 500 independent physicians who receive Kupat Holim Clalit patients in their own homes or offices have not been paid for at least a month and, in some cases, since February.

Clalit spokesman David Tagar admitted that because of the health fund's financial difficulties, payment for May was delayed, "but the checks are beginning to be mailed out."

Tagar claimed that most of the doctors work for other health funds as well, so the late payment did not mean they had no salary at all. He conceded that no advance payments had been offered to doctors who said they were financially pressed by the delay.

Meanwhile, Kupat Holim Clalit administrators yesterday complained to Health Minister Ephraim Sneh that the media had given the financially stressed health fund a "bad image."

Sneh countered that Clalit "was and will remain the touchstone of medicine in the State of Israel." He said the Histadrut health fund would rebound when its new recovery program is presented in July and the National Health Insurance Law goes into effect in October.

The minister warned that any more delays in transferring power to the Ramon faction in the Histadrut would harm the health fund.

Porush, Halpert remain MKs

SARAH HONIG

HALF an hour before their resignations from the Knesset were to take effect, United Torah Judaism MKs Menahem Porush and Samuel Halpert withdrew them last night, citing as their reason the partial amputation of the left foot of UTJ MK Avraham Shapira. Porush and Halpert solemnly promised to resign the minute Shapira is back in the Knesset.

The two MKs - both from the UTJ's largest component, Agudat Yisrael - submitted letters of resignation as part of a UTJ rotation agreement. Had the rotation been implemented, Shapira would have been Aguda's sole MK.

The UTJ was rife with rumor

that Porush was about to do an about-turn and sources said he was urged not to resign by some Aguda members, who feared Shapira might be out of commission and leave Aguda without effective representation. Porush strenuously denied the rumors, insisting his resignation was "unconditional."

But last night he maintained he "had no other choice. My letter would have gone into effect in another half hour and Aguda would have been in trouble. I withdrew my letter with the greatest of sorrow. I am aggrieved that Rabbi Shapira cannot now carry out his

duties. I wish him a full and speedy recovery and I undertake to again tender my resignation as soon as he is out of hospital. I am not interested in serving in the Knesset anymore. I am grateful for 35 years in the House and I want the rotation agreement to be carried out. This move came just to make sure that Aguda does not remain unrepresented."

The Porush and Halpert move has angered Degel Hatorah and Poalei Aguda, the two factions due to benefit from the rotation. Part of Shapira's left foot was amputated Wednesday at Sheba

Hospital in Tel Hashomer due to diabetes complications. However, last night word was that Shapira had improved considerably and had even gotten out of bed.

The hospital spokeswoman would provide no other details, by order of the Shapira family, except to say the operation was performed using a local anesthetic and that he is in an intensive-care unit.

Shapira fell in the ritual bath in his home a few weeks ago and cut his foot. The wound became gangrenous and he was then rushed to Sheba.

Judy Siegel contributed to this report.

Opposition, Golan residents blast Rabin

SARAH HONIG and DAVID RUDGE

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin's assertion Wednesday that war with Syria is likely if no agreement is reached regarding the Golan Heights elicited angry reactions from Golan residents and the opposition, which accused him of preparing the public for withdrawal from the area.

"Never has there been a prime minister in Israel who had spoken in such a fearful and irresponsible manner. Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu said. "This is a weak prime minister who attempts to infect the entire nation with his feebleness of spirit."

"Rabin's words do harm to Israel's deterrent power and hamper the chances of reaching a true peace based on security. Negotiations with Syria must be conducted very differently and not from a position of weakness, as Rabin is doing," he said.

Likud MK Benny Begin argued "that something had badly malfunctioned in what is called Rabin's analytical mind. Otherwise, he and his government are, according to his twisted logic, leading this nation to a certain war."

"Rabin talks of a territorial compromise on the Golan, while Syria will clearly insist on every square centimeter," Begin continued.

"Therefore, his policy is a recipe for war. Rabin is threatening himself and frightening the public. He continues to cynically mislead the electorate."

Molek leader Rehavam Ze'evi said "Chamberlain's voice is coming out of Rabin's mouth. Like Chamberlain, he seems to say that if an enemy threatens you, then the best thing is to appease him."

"Chamberlain at least did so at another nation's expense, but Rabin's next move will probably be to sacrifice Jerusalem to avert war, and then Tel Aviv and the whole Zionist endeavor will sink in the sea, in an effort to avoid confrontation at any cost."

The Golan settlers committee also lambasted Rabin.

"The IDF today is preparing more for war than for peace, and that leads me to think that Rabin himself has gotten scared and that's why he's making these statements," committee chairman Eli Malka said.

"I know that the IDF is preparing for war because the Syrians are arming themselves like a country that is going to war, and not a

country that's moving towards peace. Now, and especially now, we have to preserve this asset - the Golan Heights, its settlements, its positions, and the [strategic] line of hilltops - in order to stay here and by staying here ensure peace," he said.

Committee spokesman Uri Heitner took issue with Rabin's comments that the number of tanks was more important than the number of settlements on the Golan.

"Without settlements, Israel would not be able to retain its hold on the Golan and then the tanks in the region would not be Israeli tanks. Therefore any attempted comparison between tanks and settlements is irrelevant and baseless," said Heitner.

The committee sent a letter to the prime minister yesterday expressing deep concern over reports that Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and his deputy, Yossi Beilin, were set to handle the peace negotiations with Syria.

"Peres and Beilin have both made comments in the past intimating that they accept Syria's ultimatum for a full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan to the beaches of Lake Kinneret - leading to the destruction of all settlements on the Golan," said Heitner.

Meretz angry over PM decision to talk with Tsomet

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin angered Meretz yesterday when he said coalition negotiations with Tsomet were due to begin early next week.

Rabin was speaking at a meeting with political reporters in Tel Aviv to mark the second anniversary of Labor's election victory. When asked if he was going to attempt to renew coalition talks with Tsomet, he said they would probably begin next week. He also said he was conducting talks with other parties, namely Shas and Y'ud.

His statement on Tsomet took everybody by surprise - including many in Labor, in Labor's one coalition partner, Meretz, and in Tsomet itself.

Meretz's Knesset faction chairman Ran Cohen was quick to remind Rabin that Meretz's coalition agreement with Labor reserves it the right to veto the addition of any new party into the coalition. In the past Meretz has vetoed negotiations with Tsomet and successfully nipped them in the bud.

Cohen stressed that "Rabin failed to coordinate his statement on Tsomet with us. We were not informed about the matter and have not given it our approval. We will oppose admitting Tsomet into the coalition."

Cohen's counterpart, Labor Knesset faction head Eli Dayan, sought to calm Meretz by assuring it that "everything will be coordinated. The issue will be discussed with Meretz and it will agree to talking with Tsomet."

Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan last night maintained he was "astounded at what Rabin said. No one bothered to tell me about it. I think that the very idea of our joining such a dangerous govern-

ment is pretty much out of the question. However, if I did want to open coalition talks I would not enter the negotiations without Zevulun Hammer," of the National Religious Party.

Tsomet and the NRP have an agreement not to make any coalition moves independently of each other and to coordinate their policy and parliamentary action. "I will take Hammer with me and we'll see how Rabin reacts to that," Eitan said.

Meretz had in the past also cast a veto on any coalition overture to the NRP.

The one party with which Labor is sure to be negotiating next week is the three-MK Tsomet break-away faction - Y'ud. But Y'ud too will not be coming to Rabin alone, having promised to negotiate in close coordination with Judea, Samaria and Gaza settlers, pressing their demands.

Labor's talks with Shas are stalemated over Shas's demand to secure the religious status quo in the Basic Law.

An attempt might be made to revive coalition negotiations next week, with Labor hoping the mention of the Y'ud and Tsomet alternatives will frighten Shas into the coalition before its value to Labor is reduced.

Labor sources admit Y'ud is only a psychological alternative to Shas as it cannot offer Labor a majority coalition which Shas, with six MKs, narrowly can. The Labor-Meretz coalition commands only 36 out of 120 MKs and depends for its survival on Arab and Communist MKs. This dependence would not change if Y'ud is co-opted into the coalition.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man testifies in US trial via videoconference

An Israeli testified before a New Jersey court yesterday without having to fly to the US by taking part in a videoconference from Tel Aviv's Dan Hotel.

The case involved a large commercial company and one of its senior employees. The Israeli's testimony was vital to the case because he was involved in purchasing for the company.

Moshav turns highway surveyors off its land

Members of Moshav Yesodot yesterday refused to allow surveyors for the Trans-Israel Highway to survey the proposed route of the thoroughfare on their lands. Moshav secretary Pinhas Schwartz said that the moshav, like other communities along the planned highway, believes that the government compensation being offered is insufficient.

"There is no reason why they should build the highway on our backs," he said.

Southerners protest plan for tourism center

Environmental protection organizations are vehemently protesting against plans to open a center for desert tourism in the Nahal Hahavarim area, in the heart of a nature reserve near Sde Boker in the South. A night walk through the wadi by area residents was planned for last night.

Orit Nevo, spokesman for the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, said that construction of the center would damage the ecological balance in the area. Amir Rozenblit

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Debunkers and defeatists

A HARON Megged's "One-way trip on the highway to self-destruction," (last Friday's *Jerusalem Post*), is a long-overdue rebuttal of some of the more egregious contentions of a number of would-be debunkers of Zionist "myths" among Israeli academics.

Megged's article, which originally appeared in *Ha'aretz*, has been followed by a spate of rebuttals and counter-rebuttals on its pages, written by some of the "post-Zionist" historians and social scientists Megged attacked, and by some of their academic opponents.

Such debates are basically healthy, and I hope Megged — with whom I am largely in agreement, with some reservations — wasn't proposing that we muzzle our homegrown critics and their popular mythologies.

The correct way to respond to such critics is to take them on in fair intellectual debate, as Megged himself did. Hopefully, other social scientists, historians and writers will continue to do so.

In truth, this in-house debate isn't new. The majority of the Jewish people did not subscribe to the tenets of Zionism and its ideology from its inception over 110 years ago until the traumatic events surrounding the Six Day War.

The same was true of Jewish intellectuals throughout the Diaspora, most of whom were either opposed to or profoundly ashamed of such "primitive" ideas as Jewish nationalism and a reconstituted Jewish state.

In the Yishuv of the 1930s and '40s, which by definition was mobilized in the Zionist cause, such in-house criticism was marginalized to intellectual circles like *Brit Shalom*, whose supporters — people like Yehuda Magnes and Martin Buber — had next to no impact on broader public opinion.

The spate of more widespread criticism of the very self-justification of basic Zionism, its history, myths, symbols and heroes, began with a vengeance after the watershed year of 1977, in which Menachem Begin's Likud replaced Labor as the government of Israel.

Prof. Baruch Kimmerling, a Hebrew University sociologist and one of the "new generation" social scientists Megged attacked, admits as much in today's *Ha'aretz* weekend magazine.

"One of the most welcome things to happen to Israeli historians and social scientists was the 1977 political upheaval. That is when social scientists severed their links to the political system and created a basis for their autonomy from and critical stance

YOSEF GOELL

toward Israel society and polity — within certain limits. After that, a good part of this stance became sufficiently consolidated to stand firm, even after the counter-upheaval of 1992."

Megged is a self-identified leftist. The gist of his article is that the criticism by new-generation historians has contributed to an undermining of Israelis' belief in the justice of their own cause, at a time when Israel's very existence

Debate is healthy, but the media's search for the 'objective' middle ground between Israel and its enemies is untenable

tence continues to be threatened by the surrounding Arab world.

"If the rising tide of self-doubt fails to subside, if the self-denial of our right to be here continues to enfeeble us... we shall lack the strength to resist dangers to our very existence," he writes.

To this, the social scientists respond that their critics in the mainstream of Israel's academic establishment have been mobilized into slavish servility to Israel's Zionist polity and society, and that there is, therefore, every reason to distrust their claims to scientific objectivity.

Many of these revisionist critics, far from severing themselves from politics, started out lambasting the Likud, but went on to attack Zionism and Israel.

MEGGED AND his academic confreres are certainly not objective. I'm not even sure they claim to be. But neither are their revisionist critics, who are just as mobilized in the service of a different political and ideological cause.

Talking of myths, one in urgent need of bashing is that of objectivity in the social sciences in general, and on the part of Zionist historians in particular.

Honest and reputable social scientists should certainly be expected to go to considerable lengths to get their facts right. But their very choice of what to study, the way in which they select their facts and arguments and organize them, and their overall tone and conclusions are always far from objective. It

couldn't be otherwise.

The important thing is for social scientists to identify their biases openly, enabling the broader public to judge how far these biases affect their presentations and conclusions.

At the current stage of Israeli and Jewish history, with our processes of "nation-building" still far from complete, when our existence and well-being are still under very real threat from external enemies, I am very much in favor of an unabashed pro-Israel and pro-Zionist social science, one mobilized in support of my continued existence and eventual persistence over my enemies.

In other words, I would rather identify myself with social scientists and historians who are clearly biased in favor of Israel and Zionism, as opposed to revisionist researchers whose biases derive from the current concepts and fads of political correctness in the Western countries in which they studied, and which serve as their professional frames of reference.

Not that there isn't room for the correction of insane Zionist exaggerations.

Zionism was never a colonialist movement; but the Arabs of this country did suffer from its establishment here. There is a world of difference between the norms of battle as practiced by the IDF and the brutality-for-brutality's-sake of the PLO and its terrorist arms; but the very use of the term "purity of arms" as a description of reality rather than a moral aspiration is an oxymoron, if there ever was one.

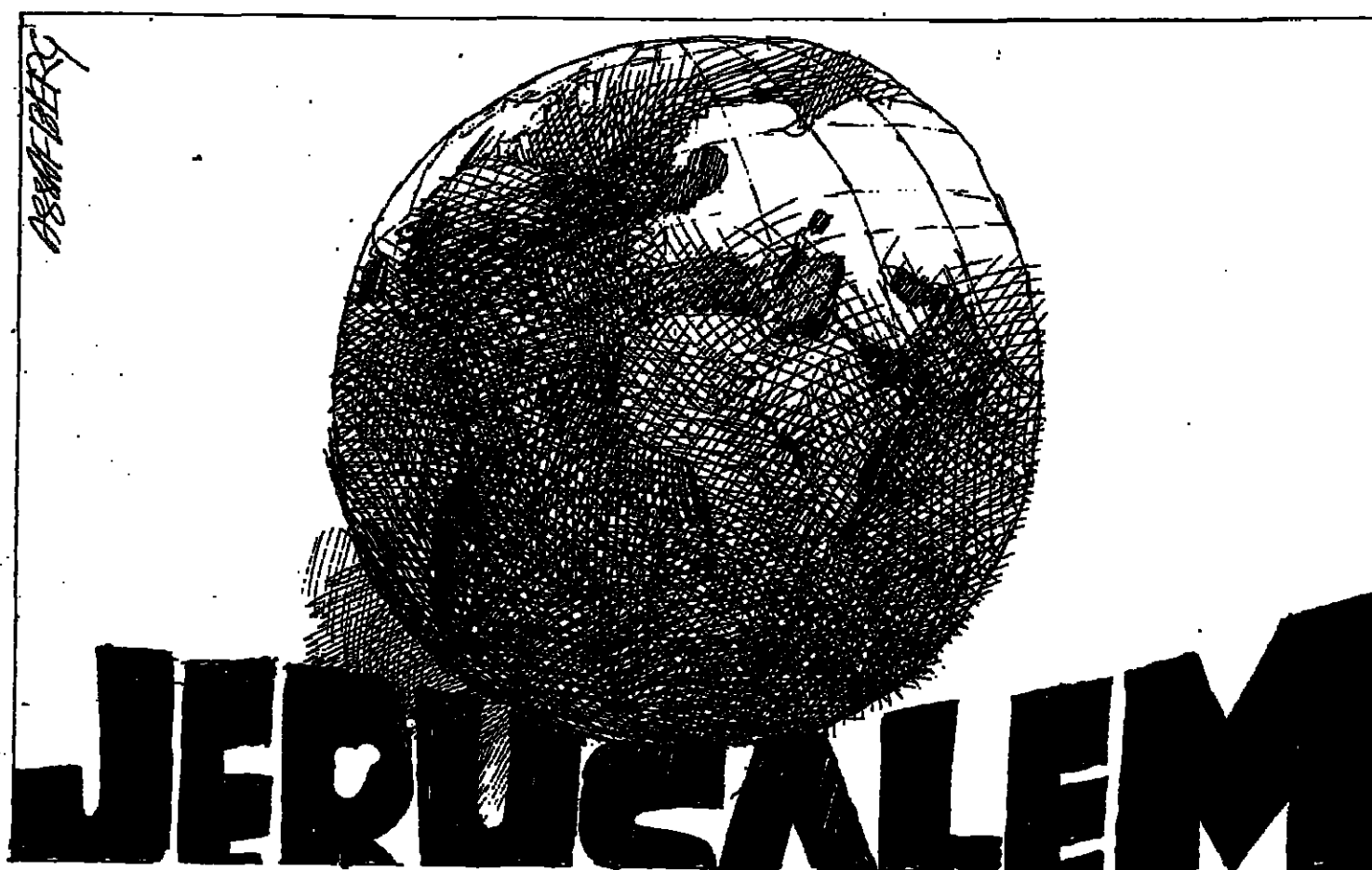
The falseness of such exaggerations by Zionist and Israeli propagandists is partly what fuels the vehemence of some of the revisionist arguments. At the same time, the need to rebut and correct such exaggerations should not be blown up into a total rejection of the justice of the entire Zionist enterprise.

The main danger, I believe, comes not from academics, but from the media, the popular disseminators of ideas.

A country that is still very much a mobilized society has a right to expect its communications media to mobilize in support of its broadly shared public goals. A country that is still under siege has the right to expect that the people who set the tone in its media will not adopt a stance of seeming-objectivity between themselves and the enemy — certainly not one which openly supports the enemy.

Regrettably, that has only too often been the case on Israeli TV and in some of our newspapers.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on public affairs.



The stark reality of Jerusalem

STAN GOODENOUGH

I am writing as a concerned Gentile observer of your Jewish nation's currently unfolding history.

The PLO's pledge to leave negotiations over Jerusalem out of the peace process until September 1996 has gone the way of all that organization's written and verbal undertakings: into the trash can.

Caught between apathy and an inability to organize solid resistance to further concessions, Israel is voicing opposition while watching in disbelief as the PLO opens more government institutions in the city the Jews swore would never again be divided.

Since the peace process began in Madrid three years ago, Israeli and world Jewish opinion has remained overwhelmingly unwavering on this one issue.

For 2,000 years, Jews faithfully nurtured the dream of returning to Jerusalem. They clung to this hope to the very doors of the gas chambers.

After Israel's miraculous rebirth, after the reunification of Jerusalem in a war of self-defense, and after the Knesset passed the Jerusalem Law in 1980, Jews believe that Jerusalem will remain the eternal, indivisible capital of their state.

No matter what other concessions they make, they will never let Jerusalem fall under another sovereignty again.

People of Israel: do you believe that because you are more or less united on the question of Jerusalem the future of your capital is

safe? Do you believe that you will never be forced to give up any part of Jerusalem, that it will never again be divided?

Don't you realize that you have already nearly lost this battle? You may be more or less united

Africa — for the Palestinians' right to Jerusalem as their capital. He already has the whole of the Moslem world, and the rest of the Third World, behind his claim.

All that's left is an ineffectual Europe, which in any case has vir-

People of Israel, I fear you've already lost the battle for your capital city

against the idea of ever relinquishing Jerusalem, but the whole world is virtually united against you, and will soon insist that you permit the Palestinian Arabs their capital here.

Do you really believe that, after months of arduously working to "help" you overcome every other obstacle to peace, the world will let your five-million-strong claim to Jerusalem derail the whole process?

FACE IT. The international community does not believe in your exclusive right to Jerusalem, and this does make an enormous difference.

In Tunis on June 15, Yasser Arafat won the support of the entire African continent — including its mighty "hope," the new South

global opinion, which insists you relinquish this too.

You appear to feel quite strongly about the Golan Heights, but have so far been unwilling or unable to declare publicly, as a united Jewish nation, that you have a rightful claim to that area; that you paid with the blood of your sons to throw a Jew-hating, war-mongering Syria down from it.

It seems your leaders have already decided in their hearts that, because the world insists on it, they will simply wait for Hafez Assad to make a verbal peace promise before they pull the Jewish communities off the Heights.

People of Israel, you know that you haven't been able to withstand international pressure to relinquish your rights to all these parts of your land. What makes you think, then, that you will be able to do so when it comes to Jerusalem?

Surely the time to end the peace process in its present form has long passed? Arafat and the PLO have given you more than enough reasons to say: Thus far and no further.

Your case was powerful after Arafat's jihad speech; no one could have blamed you for stopping right there. If you think you can continue to retreat until the question of Jerusalem is all that remains, and then make your stand — you have already lost the battle for your capital city.

The writer is editor of the Middle East Intelligence Digest.

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תירוש



BUSINESS & FINANCE

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1994

'95 budget to focus on crises

JOSE ROSENFELD

EDUCATION, infrastructure investment and lower taxes will play second fiddle in next year's state budget to the financial rescue of the defense industries, Kipat Holim Clalit, the kibbutzim, the pension system, the municipalities and to higher wages in the public sector, Treasury director-general Aharon Fogel said yesterday.

Fogel, who was speaking at the Israel Democracy Institute Second Casarea Forum on the Budget, said the government would have to deal first with crises and then with budget priorities.

The Treasury will be pushing for a lower budget deficit next year, to lower government borrowing, and thereby ease inflationary pressures.

Budget director David Brodet said the deficit will have to drop more than a symbolic amount in order to help lower inflation. The deficit for this year is expected to reach 3 percent of the Gross Domestic Product, Brodet hinted that next year's deficit will drop by

more than a tenth of a percent below this year's level.

Brodet said the government will have to switch its economic program in view of the fact the economy will reach "full employment" by 1996/7. As long as there is significant unemployment, labor costs remain stable. However, once full employment is reached, there will be greater pressure to raise salaries.

The budget focus, Treasury officials said, will be on lowering government spending and increasing economic reform. The Treasury is planning to lower taxes next year by between NIS 500 million and NIS 1 billion, said Brodet.

Economists unanimously criticized the significant wage increase the government granted public sector employees for being highly inflationary. Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel even called them "a failure, which will extraordinarily complicate the



Brodet: Deficit will have to drop significantly to help lower inflation. (Isaac Harari)

fight against inflation."

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat fired back at the academics, saying "during the 77 days of the lecturers' strike, I did not hear a single economics professor warn of the danger that wage demands will impose on the economy. I find it immoral that after that they complain about its impact on the economy."

Fogel pointed out that higher wages will require giving up on other budget priorities. However, he said, the economy could manage with higher wages under two conditions: that no wage agreements will be reopened for negotiation - which will be a hard thing for the government to withstand; and secondly, that the private sector does not follow suit.

Although the Treasury does not have final figures for next year's public sector wage agreements, Brodet estimated it would reach hundreds of millions of shekels. Other forum participants expected it would reach over NIS 1b.

Electric Corp. board appoints Peled as new head

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE Israel Electric Corp. (IEC) board of directors yesterday appointed former police inspector-general Rafi Peled its new director-general, by a vote of 14 in favor and one abstention. The appointment must be approved by the cabinet.

Peled is to begin work at the start of 1995, taking over from Moshe Katz, director for the past four years. Katz is retiring after 40 years with the company.

Peled, 50, was Energy Minister Moshe Shahal's top candidate. Born on Kibbutz Hazorea, he is a graduate of the National Defense Academy.

"I have come to the conclusion that Rafi Peled is the best possible candidate to manage the IEC,"

said Shahal. "I know him well and think he has the characteristics necessary to manage the flagship company of the energy sector and maybe the economy. He has the qualities necessary to manage a large, important and structured company like IEC."

According to Shahal, Peled is very trustworthy and honest. The minister said the attorney-general approved Peled's appointment as director-general of a government company.

Shahal lauded the outgoing Katz's accomplishments. "There are very few people that can meet Katz's capabilities in the field of energy and electricity. He 'produces energy' in the widest definition of the concept."



Peled: To serve as IEC director-general from the beginning of 1995. (Isaac Harari)

Government gets passing grade on 2-year report card

COMMENT

NEIL COHEN

TWO years have passed since the Rabin government was elected. In its election campaign it stressed its commitment to economic reform. Overall the government rates a C+. B- for effort and D for determination. Here's why:

The good news:

Unemployment is coming down, though largely despite the government rather than thanks to it. Strong economic growth and the virtual halt in immigration have mopped up a significant number of unemployed. Leaving aside the rights and wrongs of bringing in foreign workers, labor generally remains too inflexible. The Labor Ministry is stuck in the socialist '60s and labor laws remain overly protective.

Foreign currency liberalization continues, albeit at a painfully slow pace. It is easier for companies to do business but unnecessary obstacles still exist.

Taxes have been cut and simplified. But they still need to come down, especially the higher rates. And many anomalies still exist. Stock market speculation remains untaxed while investment in unquoted companies - riskier, longer-term and more productive, is taxed at the full rate.

The stock market remains alarmingly underregulated. Stocks are manipulated and investors are clearly not informed of the risks involved in investing on the TASE. The banks' conflicts of interest in this area continue unresolved.

Housing is in crisis and so far the government's solution remains in idea-form only. This will be a key test over the next few months, as will Health: The National Health Insurance law has been passed. It should not have taken the government two years to tackle the crisis in Kipat Holim Clalit.

Pensions will be another key test, which again have taken too long to tackle. Wage settlements have been one of the engines powering inflation. The government has backed down in every battle so far. A more resolute, albeit unpopular, stance may be necessary if inflation is to be brought under control.

Privatization hasn't happened. True, a few small companies, even a couple of big ones, have been sold. But the sale of the big banks has run into serious problems and the Shikun Uftuah flotation had to be pulled at the last minute. The consumer is better off than he used to be. But lobbies and monopolies still dominate. The farmers get given cheap water to export and the consumer winds up with the tab. Tariffs are coming down, but it's like pulling teeth.

The bad news:

Inflation is rearing its ugly head again.

Class-action suit filed against Harris Adacom

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

A NIS 55.5 million class-action suit was filed yesterday against Moti Gura and Harris Adacom Corporation of Holland, which controls Adacom.

The suit, filed by attorney Herzl Kaspi on behalf of Adacom shareholder Menasse Ben-David, claims the shareholders lost NIS 55.5m. as a result of the controlling shareholders' decision not to purchase the US-based Harris Adacom Network Services (HANS) from Harris Adacom Corp.

The suit involves an agreement Adacom and the Dutch company signed in 1994, whereby Harris Adacom agreed to sell its shares in

HANS to Adacom for \$22m. In return, Adacom agreed to make a private placement of 7.26 million shares to Harris Adacom Corp.

In the suit, Kaspi said Posim Capital Market valued HANS at \$22.7m. to \$34.7m. for the purpose of the transaction. The number of Adacom shares was based on the shares' market value at the end of April.

In the suit, Kaspi claims Gura and the Dutch company were responsible for canceling the shareholders meeting and not Adacom's board of directors. Kaspi claims the defendants mis-

led the public and the Securities Authority to the benefit of their own interests. The plaintiffs claim the Dutch company was obliged to keep the agreement signed with HANS.

"The purchase of the US HANS for the agreed amount of \$22m. and its subsequent sale by Adacom could have significantly improved Adacom's financial position," said Kaspi. "The cancellation of the transaction to buy HANS and Adacom's major shareholders decision to cancel the general shareholders meeting caused significant damage to Adacom's shareholders."

Gura could not be reached for comment.

TV advertising expected to increase sharply

RACHEL NEIMAN

ADVERTISING in print media is expected to drop dramatically, as more companies turn to television for promoting their wares, according to a survey of 100 major advertisers earlier this month.

The survey, which asked about projected budget spending for the year, showed that print media will suffer a drop in market share to 43 percent from 70% last year, while

television will rise to 27% from 3%.

Outdoor signs are expected to capture 9% of the market share and radio 6%.

Channel 2 is expected to be the main beneficiary of the growth in television advertising.

"We did not commission the study and have not seen these re-

sults, but if this is so, these are very nice results indeed," said Channel 2 spokeswoman Tali Ben-Avi.

An overall 17% growth is expected in advertising volume and an 8% rise in prices.

The advertisers and 500 consumers randomly chosen for the survey were asked to rank the var-

ious media according to impact, quality and cost-effectiveness.

Television came in first, followed by print, outdoor signs and then radio.

The advertisers were also asked which media combinations were most effective.

"Television and print received a 46% favorable rating, while television and outdoor signs were given a 42% rating.

Study recommends milking Tnuva of its profits

RACHEL NEIMAN

Our car is big and green/Our car drives fast/With morning its sets out/By evening returns/Bringing us Tnuva eggs and milk.

IN the national psyche, Tnuva (an agricultural cooperative of kibbutzim and moshavim) as a synonym for milk products is borne out by the old children's rhyme. But if a policy study issued by the Institute for Advanced Strategic and Political Studies (IASPS) has anything to say about it, the ubiquitous brand name must be replaced by a free market choice of others.

"The very nature of Israel's economic system is reflected in the structure of the milk sector," says Dr. Corinne E. Mallul, who conducted the extensive study of what she sees as the agricultural sector's - pardon the pun - sacred cow. Mallul accuses the present system of creating a self-perpetuating cycle which benefits only itself and not the consumer.

Milk, as described by Mallul, is mostly water with varying amounts of protein and fat. Milk production is set according to government-determined quotas, set on a basis of forecasted per capita demand for milk and milk solids. Up until 1990, Israeli milk was "barely more than water" because of the system of meeting the quota with no consideration for quality.

Reforms in 1990 made a standard amount of protein and fat in milk products mandatory. Nonetheless, the study says Israeli milk is significantly lower in quality than European, with 3.09% fat and 3.04% protein as compared with 4.2% and 3.4% respectively.

Questioning the accuracy of the forecast, which also sets the ratio of fat to protein levels, Mallul says "the government says Israelis like low-fat products but market studies in supermarkets have shown demand for cream cheese and other high-fat products has risen 10%. So the forecast is inaccurate - providing you need to forecast demand in the first place."

The price paid for milk by distributors includes production costs, mainly for cow feed, depreciation and the farmer's wage, which is based on the national average wage for agriculture.

In a strange and possibly unkoher combination, the average income from the price of dairy cows sold for slaughter is then deducted in order to obtain the net price of milk. Mallul calls this "an artificial linkage, since milk and meat are two entirely different markets." The beef market is not controlled

and is subject to fluctuations; milk prices are adjusted to compensate for losses to the average wage. "The price of raw quota milk bears no relation to its actual market value" says Mallul. The result: "he (the farmer) has no profit incentive at all."

The controlling institutions which determine quotas and prices are the Ministry of Agriculture, Tnuva and the Dairy Board. Tnuva's lion's share of the industry is the real culprit, says Mallul. "Their control is complete because imports are almost completely forbidden. Small manufacturers cannot go directly to a farm for raw materials, nor can they import. Therefore, Tnuva is determining the quality and prices of its competition." She adds with an ironic smile "this they do very efficiently."

Milk is purchased by manufacturers at a government determined "target price" for a standard liter of milk with standard amounts of protein and fat. Distribution of 90% of milk raw materials to industry are controlled by Tnuva, which also controls some 70-75% of the retail market.

"Tnuva unabashedly says their main objective is not to make a profit," says Mallul. She cites a company statement: "Unlike private companies, Tnuva reflects an ideal beyond the profit motive: it derives no profit from its activities." The statement goes on to declare its economic purpose: a fair price to producers for the mutual benefit of consumers and producers.

But it is the consumers who get the short shrift. "Supply here determines demand" Mallul states baldly. "The attitude is zeh ma yesh... Israelis are not aware their market is limited." One only has to visit the dairy-cases spread out in every supermarket across the land. At first glance they appear overflowing but closer inspection reveals a limited selection of similar products with slight variations - onion, olive or garlic-flavored - packaged in different ways.

The LASPS study calls for major reforms, aimed at increasing efficiency in the milk sector. First is liberalization in the area of price control or replacing fixed maximum allowed prices to a recommended price list. A third possibility is for the government to apply antimonopoly regulations.

Yossele Yudovich, manager of Tnuva's milk division was unwilling to comment on the LASPS study, saying he had not read it.

WORLD BRIEFS

US factory orders up 0.9%: Orders to US factories for durable goods rose a surprisingly robust 0.9 percent in May, the ninth increase in the last 10 months, the government said yesterday.

Meanwhile, the four-week moving average of jobless claims was a seasonally adjusted 354,500, down 3,500 from the previous week's revised 358,000. It was the lowest level since April 30 and the fifth consecutive weekly decline. AP

Eurotunnel confounds worst fears over rights issue: Channel tunnel operator Eurotunnel said yesterday it had found buyers for two-thirds of the British part of its massive 2858 million rights issue, confounding worst fears of a total flop.

Aggressive selling of Eurotunnel Plc/SA shares and tumbling European stock markets ahead of the issue had prompted fears that a large chunk would be left with the underwriters. Reuter

British newspaper shares dive on cover price war: British newspaper company shares plunged yesterday when the biggest selling broadsheet slashed its cover price by 30%, intensifying the price war declared by Rupert Murdoch.

The Telegraph, fearful of the first dip in its circulation below a million copies against Murdoch's resurgent Times, cut its price to 30 pence from 48 to match the News Corp. title. Rival title The Independent followed hours later with a one-day cut to 20 pence from 50 pence. Analysts expect a permanent reduction, perhaps to 30 pence. Reuter

Conseco Inc. bids for Kemper Kemper Corp: Conseco Inc., an Indiana-based insurance company, yesterday offered to acquire financial services firm Kemper Corp. for \$3.25 billion topping a sweetened \$2.4b. bid by GE Capital Corp. Reuter

French concern buys Kodak's RX business: The French healthcare products concern Sanofi Group has agreed to buy Sterling Winthrop Inc.'s prescription drug business for nearly \$1.68b. in cash, the companies announced yesterday. The deal represents the first major step by Sterling's parent, Eastman Kodak Co., to exit the drug business. AP

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patash (foreign currency deposit rates) (24.6.94)				
Currency (deposit for):	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	3.875	4.250	4.675	
Pound sterling (£100,000)	3.800	4.150	4.500	
German mark (DM 200,000)	3.800	4.150	4.500	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.250	3.750	3.600	
Yen 100 million yen	0.500	0.625	0.675	

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (23.6.94)				
Currency	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Rep. Rate
U.S. dollar	3.2680	3.2680	—	3.2681
German mark	3.0287	3.0287	2.26	3.12
French franc	1.8900	1.9167	1.85	1.9017
Japanese yen (100)	4.8547	4.7204	4.55	4.6757
Dutch florin	0.8222	0.8200	0.82	1.8723
Swedish krona	3.0332	3.0781	0.83	0.8582
Swiss franc	1.8954	1.7982	1.85	1.7114
British pound	0.5703	0.5772	0.58	0.5772
Spanish peseta	0.2354	0.2410	0.23	0.2372
Italian lira (1000)	0.4345	0.4402	0.43	0.4372
Belgian franc (10)	0.4915	0.4974	0.49	0.4972
Australian dollar	2.1988	2.2298	2.15	2.25
S. African rand	2.2326	2.2844	2.19	2.2683
Canadian dollar	0.9405	0.9523	0.95	0.9485
Israeli shekel (10)	0.9172	0.9222	0.92	0.92
Indian Rupee (100)	2.8846	2.7725	2.83	0.9231
Jordanian dinar	1.8257	1.9523	1.88	1.9383
Egyptian pound	—	—	4.27	4.2897
Irish punt	4.5732	4.5778	4.62	4.5818
Spanish peseta (100)	2.2774	2.2806	2.21	2.26

* These rates vary according to bank. Bank of Israel.

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South African Economic Statistics

	Prices 23.6.94	Prices 15.6.94	% Change
Exchange rates:			
Commercial rand (buy)	3.656	3.617	-1.06%
Financial rand	4.745	4.800	1.15%
Interest rates:			
Money market (BAAs) (Ry)	10.75%	10.85%	-0.92%
Escom 2008	13.58%	13.46%	0.89%
Escom 2020	14.27%	14.27%	0.00%
RSA 150	13.54%	13.43%	0.82%
UAL Max Income	13.53%	13.52%	0.07%
Prices UTL:			
QMI Investors	R40.4485	41.0370	-1.43%
Guardbank (buy)	36.5927	36.4192	0.48%
UAL Gil	12.2335	12.1984	0.21%
Max Income	10.6954	10.672	0.22%
Shares:			
De Beers	115.00	118.25	-2.75%
Vaal Reef	430.00	421.00	2.14%
Anglo American	238.00	247.00	-3.64%
Barlows	36.00	38.50	-6.49%
SA Brews	92.50	95.50	-3.14%
Sasol	25.20	25.30	-0.40%
Tiger Oats	49.00	49.75	-1.51%
Iscor	3.49	3.50	-0.29%
JSE Actuaries Overall	5.721	5.763	-0.72%

COMMENTS: SA experienced a surprisingly small net outflow of capital in the first quarter of 1994 as short-term money flowed back into the country, the Reserve Bank said in its latest quarterly bulletin. But the bank painted a picture of unusually volatile flows in recent months as foreign sentiment towards SA wavered. The bulletin also disclosed that the current account of the balance of payments had shrunk dramatically. The dramatic improvement in the capital account of the balance of payments in the first quarter was ascribed to an impressive turnaround in short-term flows.

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July 6, 8 pm, AACI, 22 Mazeh St., Tel Aviv, NIS 25 non-members NIS 15 members.

03-5101114

French troops head for Rwandan refugee camp

CHRISTOPHER BURNS
PARIS

CRACK French troops rolled into western Rwanda yesterday aiming to secure a refugee camp as the first objective in their intervention in the war-torn nation, officials said.

About 600 Foreign Legion units and French marines on the Zairean border began "Operation Turquoise" despite new warnings by rebels that France's humanitarian mission would be treated as an invasion and resisted.

The first troops, a reconnaissance group, headed from the Zairean border town of Goma for the northeastern region of Gisenyi at about 1:30, said French government radio, quoting an unidentified government source.

Meanwhile, about 200 soldiers in transport vehicles and backed by helicopters entered 100 kilometers to the south, from Bukavu, Zaire, in the direction of Cyangugu, officials said.

The force was to first secure a refugee camp in Cyangugu, home to about 8,000 ethnic Tutsis, the minority subjected to massive killings by Hutu militias, officials said.

French officials sought more international backing for the virtually solo foray into the blood-soaked African nation, and new voices were raised urging caution or withdrawal despite UN approval Wednesday.

Previous French intervention in Africa, including in Rwanda in 1990, had propped up friendly governments, and ethnic Tutsi rebels who have seized two-thirds of the country said the new operation

would save the Hutu-dominated government.

But France argued its operation, while beginning in Hutu-controlled regions, was strictly humanitarian in a war that has left an estimated 200,000 dead, mostly Tutsi civilians, since resuming in April.

The operation was expected to involve 2,500 red beret French troops, most based in other French former colonies in Africa, aims to pave the way for 5,500 UN blue beret peacekeeping troops to arrive late next month.

The troops, dispatched from bases in the Central African Republic, got into position as soon as the UN Security Council gave a two-month OK late Wednesday for the operation.

But one party in the conflict, the Rwanda Patriotic Front, dominated by the minority Tutsi ethnic group, reiterated yesterday that it views the French as biased and threatened to fight.

"We have no doubt whatsoever that their intentions are far from being humanitarian," Theogene Rudasingwa, secretary-general of the RPF, said in an interview in Paris.

"We will not go to Cyangugu to fight the French forces, but if we must go there and they are there, we will treat them as invaders," said Jacques Bihozagara, the rebels' representative in Europe, speaking to reporters.

"Combat is possible," he said, since France "is on the side of the fascists." (AP)



About 50 Moslem snake charmers demonstrate in Dhaka, Bangladesh, yesterday, shouting calling for the death of author Taslima Nasrin and the Bengali daily newspaper Janakantha for allegedly insulting the Koran. (AP)

Bosnians press offensive against rebels

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - Bosnian government troops pressed ahead yesterday with an offensive against rebel Muslims in the north but rebel leaders rejected predictions by foreign military observers that they faced defeat.

Forces of the Moslem-led government army in the northwestern Bihać enclave have pushed back troops loyal to separatist leader Fikret Abdic, leaving UN sources convinced that "his days are numbered."

But Abdic's military commander, Asim Delic, told reporters: "I have full confidence in the units of our people's defense because this is after all a people's army."

Abdic, a food-processing tycoon and biggest employer in Bihać province, declared autonomy last September in protest at Bosni-

an President Alija Izetbegovic's refusal to agree peace with Serbs and accept the partition of the country.

Abdic himself also appeared confident of holding off the 12-day-old government onslaught.

"We are militarily capable of holding back the offensive but the number of victims will be horrific," he said in an interview at his office in a 13th-century hilltop castle.

"Neither I nor my soldiers feel threatened by this offensive. We're just surprised. We had hoped [the Bosnian government's] rejection of peace would be won over by our own political and economic arguments."

The United Nations said yesterday that the level of fighting in Bosnia had decreased since a temporary truce on June 10 to prepare the warring sides for a long-term peace deal.

"Our estimation is that the number of shells now is 25 percent less than the number before the Geneva [truce] agreement," UN spokesman Major Rob Annink said in Sarajevo.

The United States, Russia and European powers are expected to endorse at a July economic summit a plan dividing Bosnia along ethnic lines with penalties if the combatants refuse to cooperate, a senior US official said on Wednesday.

He said the Group of Seven summit in Italy on July 9-10, with Russia joining in, could make a strong political statement endorsing the peace process.

Japan's PM may resign to save coalition

TOKYO (AP) - Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata said yesterday that he will resign if necessary to win the support of the Socialists in a parliamentary vote that threatens to bring down his minority coalition government.

An agreement could save the reformist coalition that took over last year from the scandal-plagued Liberal Democrats, who had ruled for nearly four decades. Now the largest opposition party, the Liberal Democrats filed a no-confidence motion yesterday in Hata's government. It would force Hata to resign or call new elections if passed.

The Socialists had quit the coalition immediately after Hata was named prime minister on April 25, leaving his government without a majority in Parliament.

Hata's offer to bring Japan's second-largest party back into a reshuffled government opened the possibility that he would resign with his Cabinet en masse, meeting a major demand of the Socialists, while hoping to get his job back in a new lineup.

The prime minister said he would put everything on the table in discussions between his allies and the left-leaning Socialists, "including whether I stay in office."

First British priest gives birth to baby

LONDON (Reuters) - A British woman has become the first Church of England priest to give birth. The event occurred three months after the church allowed women to be ordained.

"To give birth as a priest in the Church of England is unique," said vicar Susan Mayones-Hurd yesterday. She gave birth to the baby girl, called Anya Rachel, on Sunday.

Mayones-Hurd was already eight months pregnant when she was ordained at Birmingham's St Philip's Cathedral in May.

Aden hit by heaviest artillery barrage since war began

ADEN (Reuters) - Northern Yemeni forces pounded the southern city of Aden with the heaviest artillery barrage of Yemen's civil war yesterday, as the south called for sanctions to force the north to stop the attacks.

Shells crashed into Aden's northern suburbs of Mansoura and Sheikh Othman at a rate of one a minute last evening after a brief afternoon lull in the northern Yemeni barrage.

Buildings shook with the blasts, and wooden houses were blazing after being hit by shells.

"The shells are coming down now. But I don't have a car. Where can I go?" one resident, trapped in his house by the barrage, told Reuters by telephone.

Residents said that for the first time since the war began, on May 4, almost all Aden's residential areas were being bombarded by northern forces, who are trying to crush the south's bid to secede from a united Yemeni state.

Aden's population was estimated at 350,000 before civil war broke out. It has grown to over 400,000 as refugees fled into the city, capital of the southern state

that announced a month ago that it was breaking away from the four-year union.

Witnesses said four people waiting to buy bread at a bakery in the central Mualla area were blown up pieces by a rocket and the city's main hospital said 130 dead or wounded had been admitted from just before dawn yesterday until noon.

"The hospital cannot cope. The wounded are lying on the floor in the corridors," one doctor said at Aden's main al-Jomhuriya Hospital, noting that it was short of medical supplies, water and beds. "This is barbaric."

Doctors and nurses struggled to cope with the flood of casualties. The howls of the wounded filled the hallways.

Most of Aden's people huddled at home yesterday. Their windows rattled and doors shook to the deafening explosions of Katyusha rockets, and clouds of dust hung over the city.

As the wailing of ambulance sirens echoed through the streets of Aden, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said it was worried about the worsening plight of civilians.

Mandela agrees to meet with UNITA leader

CAPE TOWN (AP) - President Nelson Mandela said yesterday that he wanted to meet soon with Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi - preferably in South Africa - to try to halt civil war in Angola.

After an hour-long meeting with UN officials and foreign diplomats involved in deadlocked Angolan peace talks, Mandela told reporters he had met previously with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and knew his positions on key issues.

He said he was willing to meet with Savimbi, the UNITA rebel leader formerly backed by South Africa's apartheid regime, to try to finally end the 19-year-old war.

"Angola is our neighbor," said Mandela, who became South Africa's first black president last month. "It is a country which has a lot of natural wealth. I think that it will be a positive advantage to South Africa as well as to the southern African region for peace to be restored."

Mandela came to power when his African National Congress won the nation's first all-race election in April. The relatively peaceful transition from white minority rule to a black-led government has made Mandela a leading figure in African affairs.

He emphasized yesterday that he was only helping out with the Angolan peace talks, not taking over the entire initiative.

"I am prepared therefore to accede to the request" to get involved, Mandela said. "I would be happy to invite Dr. Savimbi to sit down and have a discussion."

Alioune Blondin Beye, the UN special representative to Angola, led the delegation from Angolan peace talks in Lusaka, Zambia, that have stalled over rebel demands for administrative control over areas where their support is strongest. UNITA - the Union for the Total Independence of Angola - also wants a power-sharing deal with a guaranteed post for Savimbi.

"We had a warm welcome here and we were well understood," Beye said. "If southern Africa would be rid of all these conflicts in the region, it would have a major influence on the development of the whole continent."

Officials at the Lusaka talks that began seven months ago told reporters Wednesday negotiators from the government and the rebels supported asking Mandela to step in.

Angola represented one of the last battlefields of the Cold War

WORLD BRIEFS

Two Brits freed after 17 days captivity

SRINAGAR, India (AP) - Moslem militants yesterday freed unharmed two British tourists held captive for 17 days, following negotiations through a Moslem cleric who was assassinated earlier this week. Eight gunmen handed over Kim Housego, 16, and David Mackie, 36, to four Kashmiri journalists near Anantnag, a town 25 kilometers south of the village of Aroo, where they had been taken hostage by militants.

S. Africa reclaims UN Assembly seat

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters) - South Africa yesterday reclaimed its seat in the UN General Assembly, from which it was suspended in 1974, and was formally welcomed back "to the community of nations." Its return to the 184-member body marked the repeal of the last sanction imposed on South Africa because of its now-defunct policy of apartheid.

Queen's yacht to go

LONDON (AP) - Queen Elizabeth II is giving up the sumptuous oceangoing Royal Yacht Britannia, and will reimburse the taxpayer for her family's personal use of royal aircraft, the government announced yesterday.

Defense Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said the 125-meter (412-foot) yacht Britannia will be decommissioned in 1997. He said any decision to replace the 40-year-old ship would be made in consultation with the queen.

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will be held at the Kfar Shmaryahu Cemetery on Thursday, June 30, 1994 at 5 p.m.

The Family

The unveiling of the tombstone of the late

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will be held at the new Ra'anana Cemetery on June 26 at 4 p.m. We will meet at the gate.

The Family

LA police tapes show how O.J. terrorized his ex-wife at her home

LOS ANGELES - On tapes released Wednesday by the Los Angeles Police Department, O.J. Simpson's former wife is heard crying and pleading for help as a man identified as Simpson furiously screams obscenities in the background after breaking down her door.

"Can you get someone over here now?... He's back. Please. He's O.J. Simpson. I think you know his record... He showed up again. Could you just send somebody over here? He's in a white Bronco. But first of all, he broke the back door down to get in... He's going nuts... He's going to beat the (expletive) out of me." Nicole Brown Simpson says on the tape of her 911 call - made on October 25, 1993, eight months before she was murdered.

"He broke the whole back door in... He came and he practically knocked my upstairs door down but he pounded it and he screamed and hollered and I tried to get him out of the bedroom because the kids are sleeping in there."

In the background, a man says: "I don't give a s--- anymore." Nicole Simpson responds: "Would you just please, O.J., O.J., O.J., please leave." The man screams back: "I'm not leaving." On the tape, she describes

Simpson as "ranting and raving" and "crazy."

The tapes provide new details of the tumultuous union between the former high school homecoming queen and the Heisman trophy winner - a relationship that prosecutors contend ended brutally when he allegedly killed Nicole, 35, and her friend Ronald Goldman, 25, outside her Brentwood condominium 13 days ago.

According to Nicole Simpson's account on the tape, the incident began after O.J. Simpson became upset over a picture of a former boyfriend in her photo album.

In response to news media requests, police also released a tape of the 1989 incident which led to Simpson's no-contest plea to misdemeanor wife-beating.

Authorities took no action after the October 1993 emergency call because Nicole Simpson declined to press charges. However, sometime the same month, she contacted the unit of the city attorney's office that prosecuted her 1989 battery case against Simpson, saying she was terrified and in fear for her life.

According to authorities familiar with that contact, Nicole Simpson said there were "many, many incidents" in which Simpson had threatened her.

"It has been an ongoing, chron-

ic, severe problem," said one authority familiar with those conversations. "It wasn't one time or five times. It was many times."

"It was before 1989, it was after 1989 - it was no secret," said the authority, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "She was completely terrorized. It was not exclusively hitting her. [It was] other things. She was extremely frightened and in fear for her life. Chronically. She was terrified: she believed he was going to kill her."

Deputy City Attorney Alana L. Bowman, head of the city's domestic violence unit, said Simpson was treated like other victims of spousal battery.

Although unable to provide specifics about Simpson's encounter with her office, she said Nicole Simpson "talked to one of our victim advocates over the years but... never brought forth any criminal violations that we could proceed on."

"I do know our victim advocate was in telephonic contact with her, over the past few years, within the past year," Bowman said.

"She called Nicole and Nicole called her back. There was really nothing to document... There was no crime she could report... There was nothing she was given by Nicole Simpson that she could proceed with." Los Angeles Times

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Israeli pressure kills US amendment on Golan

AN amendment requiring that a Senate debate be held on dispatching US forces to the Golan Heights has been withdrawn due to Israeli pressure.

In recent weeks, Israeli Embassy officials and the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) lobbying group, among others, urged Senator Thad Cochran, the amendment's sponsor, to drop the amendment, sources here say.

In recent weeks, Israeli Embassy officials and the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) lobbying group urged Cochran, a Republican from Mississippi, to drop the amendment, sources here say.

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

In an unusual statement issued Wednesday, Cochran said: "I was under the false impression the amendment had the support of the Jewish community and the Israeli government. When I learned that it did not and that it was only supported by those in opposition to the government's policy, I withdrew the amendment. I don't think it is my place to take sides in this way on this issue."

The resolution was to have been attached to the defense authorization bill being considered by the Senate.

Cochran was to have introduced the amendment at the urging of local analyst Frank Gaffney Jr., director of the conservative Center for Security Policy and an opponent of Israeli concessions on the Golan.

Gaffney convened a briefing last week for House of Representatives aides that called on Congress to hold hearings now on the viability of US troop or observer presence on the Golan should Israel and Syria conclude a peace deal. A retired four-star general, John Goss, asserted at the briefing that such hearings should be held to clarify what the US mission on the Golan would be.

DIASPORA

With respect, UJA chairperson Shoshana Cardin declared. "We are not just fodder for aliyah. Aliyah is important. But we have an independent necessity to define ourselves. Let us also admit that we don't know each other." Cardin added, "There are some roads to Washington that go through the American Jewish community."

Confirming his belief in the Diaspora's future, Conference of Presidents head Lester Pollack also called on Israel to continue to support a strong Jewishly committed Diaspora.

"I find that Israelis in general are apathetic towards the role of the American Jewish community. We see it in the political arena, where the role of the American community is not appreciated."

Pollack said. "Israel must assist in the Diaspora struggle for Jewish vitality and vigor."

The US leaders found support for their stance from Rabbi Uri Regev, head of the Reform Movement's Religious Action Center. "With all due respect to you, my president, I think it is not enough to say that you do not give legislation to the Diaspora because it is a fact, it exists," Regev said. "It is like Arafat saying he doesn't need to recognize Israel because it exists."

The president was irked by the comparison with Arafat.

"I am the head of the State of Israel which was created by Zionists. I cannot for the life of me legitimize it and give it the presidential stamp," Weizman said.

"But," he added, "it is because I recognize the Diaspora that I have called this dialogue."

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Mansdorf advances to third round with win over American qualifier

Courier, Edberg become latest Wimbledon upset victims

ORI LEWIS and news agencies

WIMBLEDON — Amos Mansdorf advanced to the third round of Wimbledon yesterday after defeating American qualifier Kenny Thorne in a four-set match.

Meanwhile, two-time champion Stefan Edberg and last year's runner-up, Jim Courier, became the latest upset victims during one of the most startling opening weeks in Wimbledon history.

Mansdorf will face No. 4 Goran Ivanisevic, a 6-2, 7-6 (7-4) winner over Alexander Mronz of Germany.

The Israeli No. 1, ranked 45 in the world, won 7-6 (7-1), 6-3, 6-7 (1-7), 6-1 in two hours, 43 minutes in a match that was far from easy, although Mansdorf's superior experience and skills were nevertheless dominant throughout.

Thorne, ranked 211 in the world, has an extremely fast serve, but he is not accustomed to a five-set singles match, as he specializes in doubles.

The beautiful, sunny day undoubtedly helped Mansdorf, who played both from the back of the court and at the net.

Mansdorf held his own serve in the first set and was unable to make an impression on Thorne, a tall right-hander, until late in the set.

Mansdorf eventually won the tie-break 7-1, as Thorne's inexperience at this level showed.

Mansdorf was in full swing in the second set, as he took an early break in the third game and then again in the ninth to finish off the set 6-3.

Mansdorf broke early again in the third set, and the victory looked to be all but ensured, but Thorne regained some of his form, broke back and forced another tie-break, which he won.

Thorne pulled a leg muscle in the fourth set early on and called for a trainer.

Mansdorf was not affected by this slight delay and reeled off the points and games with little more resistance from Thorne.

He hit seven aces in the final set and hit some wonderful passing shots from the back of the court.

"I felt much better today," Mansdorf said. "The warm weather certainly helps, because my backache is much less severe."

Mansdorf praised his opponent as a grass-court player, but said

"his doubles play did not prepare him for such a tough match. He was very tired toward the end."

Edberg, the third former champion knocked out in the early rounds, lost in five sets as 113th-ranked Kenneth Carlsen of Denmark played the match of his life.

The fifth-seeded Courier, winner of four Grand Slams, suffered an almost unimaginable defeat to France's Guy Forget, who has been sidelined most of the past year after knee surgery and has fallen to 1,130th in the rankings.

Forget, whose last regular tour victory before this week was in March 1993, won the second-round match 3-6, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

For the third-seeded Edberg, it was his worst Wimbledon showing for the since another second-round loss back in 1984. He had reached at least the quarterfinals every year since 1987, winning the title in 1988 and 1990.

Defending women's champion Steffi Graf, the top seed, and 1991 men's champion Michael Stich, the No. 2 seed, both lost in the first round.

Edberg won the first set in a tiebreaker before darkness halted play late Wednesday, and scraped through another tiebreaker in the second set yesterday.

But he could produce only two aces to 14 for Carlsen, and the Dane rallied strongly for a 6-7 (8-6), 6-7 (8-6), 6-2, 6-4, 6-4 victory.

Edberg went down bravely, saving five match points to hold the ninth game of the last set before Carlsen served out the match at love.

"I had the match in my hands," said Edberg, referring to a service break which gave him a short-lived 2-0 lead in the fourth set. "Unfortunately I'm out of it... Its my own fault, nobody else's."

The 28-year-old Swede won two tournaments early this year, and reached the semifinals of the Australian Open, but has struggled recently. In the French Open, he lost in five sets in the first round, and admitted it hurt to lose early here.

"It's sad, because its such a nice event to play," he said. "It's a good feeling being out there on Center Court when you're winning."

Another losing seed was No. 11 Petr Korda, blowing a two-set lead to Markus Zöcke of Germany, 4-

6, 6-7 (7-5), 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

In all, seven of the 16 men's seeds failed to reach the third round.

Among the survivors were Ivanisevic and three-time titlist Boris Becker, the No. 7 seed, who beat little-known fellow German Arne Thoms, 7-6 (8-6), 6-2, 6-4.

No. 8 seed Sergi Bruguera, a clay-court specialist and two-time French Open champion, played his best match ever on grass in a four hour, 22 minute battle with rising serve-and-volley star Patrick Rafter of Australia.

Bruguera, who had skipped Wimbledon the past three years, survived four match points to prevail, 7-6 (7-4), 3-6, 4-6, 7-4, 13-11 in the longest match of the tournament.

Rafter suffered leg cramps in the last game and lost it at love. Both players were cheered wildly as they left the court, but Rafter wasn't consoled.

"Having a marvelous match doesn't mean much to me," he said. "It's a shame to lose."

In other second-round matches, ninth-seeded Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine rallied to defeat Slava Dosedol of the Czech Republic, 3-6, 7-5, 6-1, 6-4, and 15th-seeded Yevgeny Kafelnikov, a promising Russian playing in his first Wimbledon, demolished Germany's Karsten Braasch, 6-1, 6-1, 6-3.

Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Jana Novotna, two of the women's favorites after Graf's ouster, easily advanced to the third round.

Sanchez Vicario, the No. 2 seed, defeated 143rd-ranked Maria Jose Gaidano of Argentina, 6-2, 6-1. Novotna, the No. 5 seed and tearful loser to Graf in last year's final, routed Wiltrud Probst of Germany, also by 6-2, 6-1.

Oddsman's installed Sanchez Vicario as a 3-1 favorite to win the title after Graf's first-round defeat Tuesday by Lori McNeil.

The Spaniard won her second French Open crown earlier this month, but has never advanced past the quarterfinals in Wimbledon.

Three other women's seed advanced. No. 10 Gabriela Sabatini beat Jenny Byrne of Australia, 6-2, 6-3. No. 13 Zina Garrison-Jackson beat Argentina's Mercedes Paz, 7-5, 6-0, and Helena Sukova of the Czech Republic, designated



WHAT A FEELING — Denmark's Kenneth Carlsen celebrates his victory over Stefan Edberg yesterday. (AP)

No. 17 seed after the withdrawal of seventh-seeded Mary Pierce, beat Argentine Patricia Tarabini, 6-4, 6-2.

In a mild upset, Yayuk Basuki of Indonesia beat 16th-seeded Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria, 5-7, 7-6 (7-3), 6-4.

Unseeded American veteran Pam Shriver, back for her 15th Wimbledon singles event after a year away, beat Australian Rachel McQuillan, 5-7, 6-2, 8-6.

Martina Navratilova, her prospects brightened by Graf's defeat, was to play her second-round match later Thursday against Sandra Cecchini of Italy. She is play-

ing her last Wimbledon at 37, seeking her 10th singles title in 22 attempts.

In a matchup of two of the most surprising first-round winners, American Bryan Shelton battled past Morocco's Karim Alami, 6-3, 7-5, 1-6, 6-7 (9-7), 6-2.

Shelton, ranked 120th, upset world No. 2 Michael Stich in straight sets Wednesday, while the 100th-ranked Alami, in his Grand Slam debut, beat 24th-ranked Magnus Larsson.

Alami had never before won a set on grass, and no one from his country had ever won a match at Wimbledon.

Senate won't remove antitrust exemption for baseball

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Senate committee yesterday rejected an attempt to remove major league baseball's antitrust exemption in labor matters, proposed because of the threat of a players strike.

Members of the panel expressed little sympathy for either side in the dispute, and doubted that Congress should intervene.

"We need more information about the ramifications of the proposal would have beyond labor-management relations," said Democratic Sen. Joseph Biden, chairman of the Senate judiciary committee.

The panel defeated the proposal by Democratic Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, 10-7. Two Democrats and five Republicans favored the plan. It was opposed by six Democrats and four Republicans.

The players' union had contended adoption of the bill would help forestall a walkout.

But baseball's Richard Levine said after the plan was defeated that "it would not have had any major impact on the negotiations."

An antitrust exemption precludes the Major League Baseball Players Association from suing team owners, and union officials say that could lead to the game's

eight work stoppage since 1972.

"Without the antitrust laws, we've had nothing but strikes," union head Donald Fehr said Wednesday. "I believe it's largely because the owners don't feel constrained. Over time, if it passes, it ought to materially affect the owners' position."

Fehr was not immediately available for comment after the vote.

A four-year collective bargaining agreement between the players and owners expired December 31.

Players are expected to set a strike date July 11 because they believe owners may declare an impasse in bargaining and unilaterally impose a salary cap after the season.

Baseball players earn an average \$1.2 million a year.

If baseball were subject to antitrust laws, the union could decertify, as the NFL Players Association did, and sue. That would move the confrontation into court while play continues.

Baseball is the only sport with a blanket antitrust exemption. The Supreme Court ruled in 1922 that baseball wasn't a business and affirmed the ruling in 1972, saying it was an anomaly that Congress had the power to remove.

Ohio St. basketball put on probation

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The NCAA placed Ohio State on one-year probation yesterday and stripped it of a scholarship because of recruiting violations in men's basketball.

The governing body of college athletics also said coach Randy Ayers will not be permitted to leave campus during the July and September recruiting periods this year.

Ohio State also received a public reprimand and censure and was ordered to take steps to avoid any future violations of bylaws of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

The probation will run until June 4, 1995.

In a teleconference, David Swank, chairman of the NCAA's Committee on Infractions, said, "There was a series of very serious violations."

The NCAA criticized Ayers for not being in control of his program and for being present when violations took place.

It criticized the university for not monitoring recruiting activities until the 1992-93 academic year.

The NCAA also found that the university provided recruits with improper inducements, including gifts in their hotel rooms during official visits.

Tufnell convicted of assaulting girlfriend

LONDON (Reuters) — England spinner Phil Tufnell faced a fresh trial to win back his international place yesterday after being convicted in court of assault and molesting charges.

The career of the 27-year-old, who returned from West Indies last winter as England's senior spinner, has been on hold since he was given five weeks compassionate leave by Middlesex in May to

sort out his troubled private life.

"He's got to prove himself all over again," said England's chairman of selectors, Ray Illingworth. "I don't want to punish him twice, but he has it all to do. There have been problems on and off the field, and we are not very happy about that. It's up to him to show us he's bowling well and behaving himself."

"Phil has got to knuckle down and do the business," said Middlesex secretary Joe Hardstaff. "England have missed him and so have we."

Tufnell was ordered by magistrates in northeast London to pay over £1,000 in fines and costs after admitting assaulting his former girlfriend Jane McEvoy, the mother of his 21-month old daughter Ellie.

The player made no comment when he left court. But his solicitor, Kevin Bays, said: "He wants to put it all behind him and concentrate on playing cricket."

Tufnell has a reputation for being temperamental and hot-headed on the field and has frequently clashed with umpires. He has lost his place in the England squad this summer to Yorkshire's Richard Stemp.

South Africa cricket team gets royal welcome

HIGHCLERE, England (Reuters) — Nearly 30 years after they last played in England, the South African cricket team returned to a royal welcome yesterday.

Queen Elizabeth and her husband Prince Philip turned out for the one-day match against The Earl of Carnarvon's Invitation XI in the in the idyllic grounds of Highclere Castle in southern England.

The royal couple joked with the South African players and stayed through the sunny afternoon to watch the play.

Prime Minister John Major also welcomed the South African team.

"I believe it is important that racially integrated sports in South Africa such as cricket should receive international recognition," he said in a message in the program.

"Sport in South Africa is acting as a catalyst in bringing people together from diverse political, economic, cultural, educational and religious backgrounds."

South Africa beat their scratch opponents, captained by former England skipper David Gower, by seven wickets in the 50-over match.

Gower's team, which included Australian spinner Shane Warne and West Indies paceman Courtney Walsh, scored 223 in 48.2 overs, including a handsome 78 from Oxford University's Gregor MacMillan 78.

South Africa raced to 224-3 in 47.2 overs with Jonny Rhodes hammering 111 in 110 balls in an innings which included 14 fours and three sixes.

South Africa begin a three-Test series against England on July 21.

Second Betaria to open August 1

JOEL GORDIN

THE second Betaria — the Olympics of the international Betar movement — will be officially opened at the Jerusalem Theater on August 1, it was announced at a press conference in Tel Aviv this week.

More than 600 sportsmen from overseas and another 600 Israelis will take part in table tennis, mini-soccer, swimming and basketball. Participants are expected to ar-

rive from Hungary, the CIS, France, Holland, the US, Turkey, Canada and Belgium.

The president of the event, Tel Aviv deputy mayor Yigal Griffl, conceded that the weather will be too hot for many of the sportsmen and that "Olympic-class results are not expected."

More foreigners sign up for Israel Athletics Championships

JOEL GORDIN

THREE more foreigners have decided at the last moment to take part in the 58th Israel Athletics Championships, which opens at 7 p.m. tomorrow at the Hadar Yosef stadium.

They are Azerbaijan triple jumper Alexsei Patonov (best distance: 16.98 meters), Ukrainian high jumper Constantine Matsvitz (2.28m.) and Ukrainian pole

vaulter Vatslav Kolnitsko (5.40m.).

They will "pace" local champions Rogel Nahum, Itai Margalit and Danny Krasnov, respectively.

Tomorrow night's events: MEN: pole vault, discus, 110m. hurdles, 100m. sprint, javelin, 400m.

WOMEN: 100m. hurdles, long jump, 100m. sprint, hammer throw, high jump, javelin, 400m.

South Africans win rugby tour opener in New Zealand

TAUPO, New Zealand (AP) — South Africa made a successful start to its rugby union tour of New Zealand when it defeated King Country 46-10 yesterday.

The Springboks scored five tries and were awarded a penalty try, while King Country was awarded a penalty try early in the second half but failed to cross the South African line.

The South Africans made several errors but were playing less than 48 hours after arriving in New Zealand, and also included seven newcomers in their starting lineup.

The tourists led 20-3 at halftime after tries from debutant lock

Krynauw Otto and impressive No. 8 Tiaan Strauss, both converted by fullback Theo van Rensburg. Fly-half Lance Sherrill kicked two penalties.

King Country's only first-half points came from a penalty by fly-half Richard Daly, who had missed two earlier penalties.

South Africa's best try of the match came six minutes into the second half.

South Africa has not toured New Zealand since 1981, when its appearance sparked off civil unrest. Protests by anti-apartheid groups clouded the entire series.

Flyers seek discipline from new coach Terry Murray

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Philadelphia Flyers yesterday named former Washington Capitals coach and former Flyers defenseman Terry Murray as their coach.

Murray, 43, was hired by Bob Clarke, the team's new general manager and president, apparently for his ability to run a disciplined team and to relate to players of all ages.

Murray replaces Terry Simpson, who was fired last month after one season. Under Simpson, the Flyers went 35-39-10 and missed the playoffs for the fifth straight season.

Murray compiled a 163-134-28 record in three full seasons and parts of two others with the Capitals.

He was fired in January after the team got off to a 20-23-4 start. Under Murray, the Capitals made the playoffs four times.

After he was fired, Murray finished out the season with the Panthers' farm team, the Cincinnati Cyclones of the International League.

Murray spent 12 seasons as an NHL player, with four teams. He played in Philadelphia from 1975 to 1981.



CAN'T CATCH ME NOW — Italy's Giovanni Lombardi (right) looks back at second place Wilfried Nilsen from Belgium, as he crosses the finish line to win the 10th and final stage of the Tour de Suisse in Zurich yesterday. (AP)

Modern Olympic movement marks 100th anniversary

PARIS (AP) — The Olympic movement returned to its roots yesterday, celebrating its 100th birthday in the same room where the founding fathers revived the Games exactly a century ago.

The International Olympic Committee, created on June 23, 1894, held a formal ceremony in the Grand Amphitheater of the Sorbonne to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the birth of the modern Games.

The Olympics, begun by the Greeks in 776 BCE and discontinued in 392 CE, were brought back to life by Pierre de Coubertin.

The French baron, who first raised the idea to a skeptical audience at the Sorbonne in 1892, saw his dream fulfilled two years later when 79 delegates from 10 countries voted to re-establish the Games and form the IOC.

The first Olympics of the modern era were held in 1896 in Athens.

"There were many critics who considered his initiatives absurd," IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch said. "Thanks to his exceptional intellectual qualities he was able to overcome all obstacles."

While critics charge that the Games have been corrupted by commercialism, Samaranch said

the Olympic movement today remains true to de Coubertin's ideals.

"The Olympism of today is faithful to the conception of its initiator," he said, adding, "we are convinced that in the future, as in the past, Olympism will show its force for conciliation and its humanism in promoting peace and international understanding."

Samaranch said the IOC had fought against apartheid in South Africa, worked for observance of an "Olympic Truce" during the period of the Games and provided moral and material support to the war-torn former Olympic host city of Sarajevo.

"Conscious of its responsibility, the IOC now plays its allotted role in the contemporary world," he said.

Samaranch said the IOC's "greatest source of pride" was maintaining unity in the Olympic movement with the international federations and national Olympic committees.

Looking ahead to the centennial Olympics of 1996 in Atlanta, Samaranch said "we are convinced that the organizers will spare no efforts to ensure that the Games of the XXVI Olympiad will be the best in our history."

Officials of the Atlanta commit-

tee for the Olympic Games, including organizing chief Billy Payne, were among those in the audience for the ceremony. Senior IOC members, French Olympic leaders and government officials were also present in the hall dominated by Pavis de Chavannes' wall painting "The Sacred Wood."

The only note of caution was raised by the French minister for sport and youth, Michelle Alliot Marie, who said that "on the eve of the third millennium, we will only succeed if we maintain Olympism's values, if we control the tendency toward gigantism and its side effects."

In 1894, de Coubertin's congress voted to limit the Games to amateurs. Amateurism has since been removed from the Olympic charter and the Games are now open to millionaire professionals.

The 1896 Games in Athens had 43 events and were attended by 280 athletes from 13 countries. About 10,000 athletes from 200 countries will compete in nearly 300 events in Atlanta in 1996.

The original IOC had 14 members and was headed by Greece's Demetrius Vikelas, who held the post for two years. De Coubertin served as president from 1896-1925 and died in 1937.

South Africa began a three-Test series against England on July 21.

South Africa beat their scratch opponents, captained by former England skipper David Gower, by seven wickets in the 50-over match.

Gower's team, which included Australian spinner Shane Warne and West Indies paceman Courtney Walsh, scored 223 in 48.2 overs, including a handsome 78 from Oxford University's Gregor MacMillan 78.

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WE KNOW SOCCER — USA defender Alexi Lalas jumps excitedly in the air after his side upsets Colombia at the Rose Bowl. (AP)

A Star Spangled stunner

Death threat sidelines Colombia's Gomez in loss to USA

PASADENA (Reuters) — The United States celebrated the greatest day in their soccer history on Wednesday when they beat Colombia 2-1 to virtually guarantee their place in the second round of the World Cup finals.

But the victory came at the expense of one of the blackest days for Colombia. Their chances of advancing past the opening phase of a competition many people tipped them to win were reduced to practically zero.

The Colombian camp was rocked just hours before the kickoff when midfielder Gabriel Gomez was forced out of the match after a death threat was apparently made against his family.

Coach Francisco Maturana, who had already named his side, threatened to resign if Colombian officials urged him to drop Gomez from the team.

After frantic pleas from Colombian Football Federation officials, Maturana reluctantly agreed to replace Gomez with reserve defender Herman Gaviria.

Instead of being in the dressing room preparing for the match, Gomez said on television just 45 minutes before kickoff: "I am devastated; this is a terrible thing to happen to me."

"My career as a footballer is effectively over. I cannot play under this pressure," he said.

A team spokesman said Gomez and Maturana had received threats from an unidentified group in Medellin that they would bomb their families' houses in Colombia if Gomez played.

The group apparently wanted Herman Gaviria, of Medellin club Atletico Nacional, to play rather than Gomez, he said.

The Colombian squad had earlier received the news that an older brother of defender Luis Herrera had been killed in a car crash in Bogota on Sunday. He opted to play.

The Colombians were under-

standably nervous, listless and unrecognizable from the side that had swept all before them in the qualifiers and warm-up games.

After almost scoring in the sixth minute when the ball bounced off American defender Mike Sorber's chest on to the post before being cleared off the goal-line by Fernando Clavijo, Colombia fell behind to an own goal by Andres Escobar.

They were out of the match seven minutes after the break when Ernie Stewart made it 2-0 to the host nation.

Colombia's much-vaunted striker Faustino Asprilla produced nothing up front and he and fellow striker Antony de Avila were replaced at halftime.

A goal in injury time by Adolfo Valencia did nothing to raise Colombia's spirits.

"This is a terrible day and we have let the country down," Maturana said. "Despite all the problems I never imagined we could play as badly as this. I do not know where we go from here — home probably."

The Colombians need to beat Switzerland in their final match by a wide margin and hope for results to fall their way in other groups to give them a chance of qualifying as one of the four best third-placed teams.

"The Americans could hardly conceal their joy at knocking us out of the door of the second round of the World Cup for the first time since 1930 and winning their first match in the finals since they beat England 1-0 in Brazil in 1950."

Alexi Lalas, who had an outstanding game in defense, whooped with joy when he stepped up to the microphone to speak to reporters.

"This is incredible, historical and very cool," he said.

Switzerland 4, Romania 1
Rampant Switzerland scored two goals in seven minutes in the second half as they cruised to a highly impressive win over Romania in their Group A match.

It was the first World Cup finals win for the Swiss in 40 years.
Adrian Knap celebrated his recall to the side by netting the decisive third goal in the 66th minute, while his strike-

ing partner Stephane Chapuisat also scored, along with midfielders, Alain Suter and Georges Bregy.

The victory, at the Silverdome indoor stadium in Pontiac, left the Swiss on four points after two matches and almost certainly guaranteed them a place in the second round.

Romanian midfield maestro Gheorghe Hagi played well in the first half, scoring a tremendous goal from 20 meters to level the scores at 1-1. But like the rest of his team, he faded in the face of the Swiss second-half onslaught.

Hodgson's decision to restore Knap to the side allowed the Swiss to play their usual 4-4-2 formation and the team looked more comfortable from the start.

First Round

Group A	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Switzerland	1	1	0	5	2	4
United States	1	1	0	3	2	4
Romania	1	0	1	4	5	3
Colombia	0	2	2	5	0	0

Group B	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Brazil	1	0	0	2	0	3
Sweden	1	0	0	2	2	1
Cameroun	0	1	0	2	2	1
Russia	0	1	0	2	0	2

Group C	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Germany	1	1	0	2	1	4
Spain	0	2	0	3	3	2
South Korea	0	1	0	2	2	1
Bolivia	0	0	1	0	1	0

Group D	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Argentina	1	0	0	4	0	3
Nigeria	1	0	0	3	0	3
Bulgaria	0	0	1	0	3	0
Greece	0	0	1	0	4	0

Group E	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Ireland	1	0	0	1	0	3
Norway	1	0	0	1	0	3
Mexico	0	0	1	0	1	0
Italy	0	0	1	0	1	0

Group F	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Netherlands	1	0	0	2	1	3
Belgium	1	0	0	1	0	3
Morocco	0	0	1	0	1	0
Saudi Arabia	0	0	1	1	2	0

World Cup at a Glance	(all times local)
Wednesday's results:	
A — Switzerland 4, Romania 1 (Pontiac)	
A — USA 2, Colombia 1 (Pasadena)	
Last night's scheduled games:	
E — Italy-Norway (E. Rutherford)	
C — South Korea-Bolivia (Foxboro)	
Tonight:	
E — Mexico-Ireland 19:25 (Orlando)	
B — Brazil-Cameroun 23:05 (Stanford)	
Tomorrow:	
B — Sweden-Russia 02:35 (Pontiac)	
F — Belgium-Netherlands 19:25 (Orlando)	
F — S. Arab.-Morocco 19:35 (E. Rutherford)	
D — Argentina-Nigeria 23:05 (Foxboro)	



BEST BEHAVIOR — Greek fans whoop in up on the way to cheer for their side at Foxboro. (AP)

Dreaded hooligan threat fizzles

DALLAS (Reuters) — The dreaded soccer hooligan is fast becoming a mythical beast at the World Cup.

The police fear he is out there and have taken every precaution to keep him at bay. The public have heard the tales of mayhem and know what his like can do.

But nobody has seen him in the flesh.

"So far I have only seen fans celebrating," said FIFA spokesman Andreas Herren on Wednesday.

Nervous police officers have seen happy Nigerian fans singing hymns to Jesus behind chain-link fences, Swiss clanking cowbells on close-circuit television and supporters of every nationality enjoying a feast of goals.

Beer has been sold in some stadiums but, after six days, there have been no fights reported.

Chales Stachowiak, press officer in Dallas, said there had not been a single arrest at the first game at the Cotton Bowl, between Spain and South Korea.

It's almost enough to give the sport a good name in a country where soccer is often portrayed as dominated by thugs who regularly stage riots to stave off boredom.

The *Boston Globe* commented after Argentina played Greece on Tuesday that "the stadium was decked out in its soccer best and the crowd was unlike any other in the history of New England sports."

"These fans were well-behaved, enthusiastic and hopelessly devoted to the world's most popular sport."

In Dallas, where city authorities insisted on erecting a fence around part of the pitch to prevent hooliganism, organizers have even slammed the police for over-reacting.

Orlando police Sergeant Mike Holloway, whose city force made headlines in the early days of World Cup planning by ordering an armored car for crowd control, was won over after an uneventful start to the tournament.

"We have found the fans to be really great and we are delighted," he said, adding that the only cup-related arrest to date was of an Irish fan for drunk driving.

"Apart from him there has been no trouble at all."

Rockets capture NBA title

Houston wins first crown with 90-84 victory over Knicks



HOUSTON (AP) —

Hakeem Olajuwon lived up to his Most Valuable Player billing and the Houston Rockets won their first championship, beating New York 90-84 Wednesday night in Game 7.

Olajuwon was brilliant — 25 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists — and capped his own triple crown with his first NBA championship and a unanimous series most valuable player selection to add to his regular-season MVP trophy.

As he had all series, Olajuwon won the battle of centers with Patrick Ewing 10 years after Ewing's Georgetown team beat Olajuwon's Houston squad for the US collegiate crown.

Ewing finished with 17 points and 10 rebounds.

And with the title still up for grabs down the stretch, the Rockets stopped a Knicks team that had the league's best defense, holding them to three field goals over the final 6:48.

The Rockets became the first team to win the NBA title after three straight by Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls and also ended the Knicks' quest to make their city the only one to win NBA and National Hockey League titles in the same year.

The Rangers ended their 54-year Stanley Cup drought eight days earlier in another seven-game series.

"Houston, you've wanted it for so long. You've finally got it," Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich said as he accepted the championship trophy.

The Knicks were within 78-75 when Olajuwon hit a short jump hook. Ewing missed a baseline jumper and Vernon Maxwell, part of the much-maligned Houston backcourt, nailed a 3-pointer with 1:48 left for an eight-point lead.

When the ball went through, Tomjanovich stood with his arms raised in front of the bench and Maxwell fell to the floor near mid-court and was mobbed by his teammates as the Knicks called a timeout.

"I just shot the shot with a lot of confidence and knocked down a big shot," said Maxwell, who finished with 21 points.

"It came down to a great hook by Hakeem and a 3-pointer by Maxwell," Knicks coach Pat Riley said.

New York's John Starks, who was nearly the hero in Game 6 when his 3-point attempt could have given the Knicks the title, was 2-for-18 from the field, including 0-for-11 from 3-point range.

He finished with eight points, half of what he had in dominating the fourth quarter of Game 6.

"Kenny (Smith) told me before the game I had to hold Starks below 15 or it would be a long night," Maxwell said.

The Knicks, who led for just 1:34 in Game 7, were looking for their first NBA title since 1973.

This was the first finals since the 24-second shot clock was installed

in 1954 that neither team reached 100 points in any game. The largest margin of victory in the series was nine points.

It was the 20th straight home victory in a Game 7 and the 12th title won at home in the 15 finals that lasted seven games. But it was only the second time in six years that a team won the title on its own court.

"The biggest thing was aggressiveness on offense. We pushed the ball up the court," Smith said.

The Rockets worked long and hard in a season that spanned all four seasons of the year, beginning last fall and ending on the second day of summer. They began it with 15 straight victories and ended with two in a row after the Knicks took a 3-2 lead in the finals.

And they had to toil to the end as every game of the first seven-game finals in six years was decided in the final three minutes.

It wasn't a series for fans of acrobatic moves, rim-rattling dunks and no-look passes. It was a battle for survival.

For the Rockets, it was their first title after losing their other two finals appearances, both in six games to Boston in 1981 and 1986.

For Riley, trying to become just the second coach to win titles with different teams, it was a less welcome milestone. Although he has four championships, he is the second coach to lose four finals.

For the Western Conference, it was the end to the East's five-year hold on the title. The last Western team to win was Riley's Lakers in 1988.

The Rockets stretched a 45-43 halftime lead to 61-55 with 1:12 left in the third quarter. But Derek Harper's 3-pointer and Charles Oakley's jumper cut the lead to one. Then Carl Herrera connected on a short hook, putting Houston on top 63-60 going into the fourth quarter.



CELEBRATION TIME — NBA Commissioner David Stern presents the championship trophy to ecstatic Houston players. (AP)

NBA NOTES

Timberwolves to remain in Minnesota next season

NEW YORK (AP) — The Timberwolves will remain in Minnesota for at least one more season. And NBA commissioner David Stern thinks they'll stay much longer. The NBA Board of Governors voted this week to reject the sale of the Timberwolves to a group that planned to move the team to New Orleans.

The owners followed the recommendation of the league's relocation committee, which decided last week that the offer by Top Rank of Louisiana was inadequately financed.

Team owners Marvin Wolfenson and Harvey Ratner are in financial trouble, but Stern said he thought they could sell the Timberwolves to a group that would keep the team in Minneapolis for the foreseeable future. Stern said Top Rank didn't provide sufficient proof that it would be able to come up with the \$152.5 million sale price.

Hawks trade Hinson to Milwaukee for Norman

ATLANTA (AP) — Forward Roy Hinson, who has missed almost all of the last four seasons with knee injuries, was traded by the Atlanta Hawks to the Milwaukee Bucks on Wednesday for forward Kenny Norman.

Hinson, 33, was acquired by the Hawks two years ago from New Jersey. In 1990-91, his last active season, Hinson played just nine games, averaging 4.6 points per game for the Nets. He has a career average of 14.2 points per game. Norman is a seven-year veteran who averaged 11.9 points, 6.1 rebounds and 2.7 assists for the Bucks last year while shooting 44.8 percent from the field. Norman, 29, has a career average of 14.2 points per game.

Bucks coach Mike Dunleavy acknowledged that the move was designed to make room under the NBA team's salary cap. Milwaukee, which has the first pick in the NBA draft on Wednesday, is expected to choose Purdue University's Glenn Robinson and hopes to sign him to a multiyear deal projected to run as high as \$100 million.

Griffey's 31st homer sets record

ANAHEIM (AP) — Ken Griffey Jr. hit his 31st home run, breaking Babe Ruth's record for most homers before the end of June and leading the Seattle Mariners to a 12-3 rout over the host California Angels on Wednesday.

Griffey connected in the sixth inning, surpassing the mark that Ruth set in 1928 and duplicated in 1930.

Ruth needed 63 games to reach 30 homers in 1928 and 68 games to do it in 1930. Griffey did it in the Mariners' 70th game of the season.

Griffey homered off Brian Anderson (5-2). The homer triggered a five-run sixth that put Seattle ahead 6-3.

Griffey had gone four games without a home run, his third-longest drought of the season.

Along with his solo homer, Griffey had an RBI double and a run-scoring groundout. Mike Blowers homered and drove in four runs.

White Sox 4, Rangers 0

Wilson Alvarez, who had lost his previous two decisions after winning a club-record 15 straight, got another victory by allowing two hits over eight innings as the White Sox beat visiting Texas.

Alvarez (9-2) earned his first win since May 27 after a stretch of four games in which he lost twice and had a pair of no-decisions. He held the Rangers hitless until the fifth, when Dean Palmer singled.

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Yankees 9, Twins 2
In New York, Mike Gallego's RBI single ignited a seven-run seventh inning, carrying the Yankees to a three-game sweep.

Scott Kamieniecki (5-3) and Kevin Tapani (8-4) were in a scoreless duel until the seventh, when the Twins scored on Alex Cole's sacrifice fly to take a 1-0 lead.

But Bernie Williams doubled to open the bottom of the inning, and Tapani (8-4) walked Randy Velarde before Gallego's single tied the score and Mark Guthrie relieved Tapani.

Guthrie walked Luis Polonia to load the bases and Wade Boggs' sacrifice fly gave the Yankees a 2-1 lead before Don Mattingly's double scored Gallego and put runners on second and third.

Carl Willis replaced Guthrie and allowed Jim Leyritz' two-run single and Paul O'Neill's 13th homer, a two-run shot.

Indians 9, Tigers 6

In Detroit, Cleveland's Jim Thome hit two home runs for the first time in his career, and Sandy Alomar homered for the third straight game.

The AL Central-leading Indians, who had a 10-game winning streak snapped Tuesday night in Detroit, now have 11 games at home, where they have won a club-record 19 in a row.

Dennis Martinez (6-4) who has not lost since May 11 in New York, allowed five runs on 10 hits, struck out seven and walked five.

Red Sox 3, Blue Jays 2

Tom Brunansky drove in two runs and Boston completed a three-game sweep in Toronto.

The Red Sox had lost 11 in a row, their longest skid since 1932, before sweeping Toronto.

WEDNESDAY'S NL RESULTS:
Montreal 6, St. Louis 4
San Diego 7, Los Angeles 6
Colorado 14, Houston 5
Chicago at Florida (pp.)
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 4
Cincinnati 4, San Francisco 3
New York 5, Atlanta 2

WEDNESDAY'S AL RESULTS:
New York 9, Milwaukee 2
Cleveland 9, Detroit 6
Chicago 4, Texas 0
Milwaukee 3, Baltimore 2
Boston 3, Toronto 2
Seattle 12, California 3
Kansas City 10, Oakland 1

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Expos 6, Cardinals 4

Larry Walker had a three-run homer and Moises Alou a solo shot as Montreal kept Bob Tewksbury's career-worst slump alive with a victory over the Cardinals in St. Louis.

Tewksbury (8-7) has been stuck on eight victories for six starts, all losses, during which he has compiled embarrassing totals of 29 1/2 innings, 57 hits and 33 runs allowed for a 10.13 ERA.

Walker hit his second home run in three games and 11th of the season, and Alou had his 13th homer to start the sixth for Montreal. Sean Berry added two RBIs on a bloop double in the fourth and a sacrifice fly in the sixth in support of Kirk Rueter (3-1).

John Wetteland, the third Montreal pitcher, got the final out for his 13th save.

Mets 5, Braves 2

In Atlanta, New York scored four runs in the eighth inning, helped by pitcher Greg Maddux's throwing error, to beat the Braves.

Maddux appeared to be coasting to his 11th victory after retiring 16 batters in a row before the Mets rallied.

Maddux (10-3) allowed two of the runs to score when he threw wide of first on a sacrifice by Fernando Vina. Jose Vizcaino then drove in Vina with a sacrifice fly.

The rally enabled Pete Smith (4-7) to beat his former teammate in his first appearance against Atlanta. He went seven innings, allowed four hits, walked three and struck out two. Mauro Gozzo pitched the eighth and John Franco pitched the ninth for his 17th save.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	42	27	.609	-
Baltimore	38	31	.551	4
Boston	35	34	.507	7
Detroit	33	34	.507	7
Toronto	31	38	.448	11

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	42	26	.618	-
Chicago	37	31	.544	5
Kansas City	37	32	.538	5 1/2
Minnesota	37	32	.538	5 1/2
Milwaukee	33	37	.471	10

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Texas	32	38	.457	-
Seattle	31	39	.443	1
California	31	42	.425	2 1/2
Oakland	25	45	.357	7

TODAY ON CABLE TV

CHANNEL 5

Ram, Labor to begin marathon talks

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

RAM's steering committee last night decided to enter into marathon negotiations with Labor, to begin Sunday and continue until a coalition agreement is reached.

Committee members include Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, Ram leader MK Haim Ramon and MKs Haim Oron and Ran Cohen.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, meanwhile, opposed Ramon's demand to disqualify outgoing Histadrut Secretary-General Haim Haberfeld from holding the No. 2 slot in the new Histadrut administration.

But the premier also said Haberfeld must cooperate with Ra-

mon, "otherwise Ramon will have a case in his demand not to make him part of the Histadrut leadership."

Histadrut sources said Rabin's sudden support for Haberfeld followed meetings with Labor leaders and party activists.

Until now, one source explained, "Rabin appeared to take Ramon's side in many matters of the coalition negotiations but now, after talking to certain ministers and others, the prime minister has finally taken a stand in support of Haberfeld and Labor. Before that, people who spoke to him reported that he was more on Ramon's side on his own party's."

Cohen demanded yesterday that the convention decide on far-reaching structural reforms pertaining to Histadrut institutions,

including the abolition of the 750-strong Histadrut council and cutting the 370-member executive committee by half.

Haberfeld said Rabin and Labor's leadership believe structural changes should not be discussed at the first convention session, but be dealt with at the second session, due at the end of the year.

The Likud, which has charged that the convention date has been set in violation of the Histadrut's constitution, did not take part in the vote. Likud Histadrut faction head MK Ya'acov Shamai said he would consider appealing to the courts to postpone the convention.

Members of the executive com-

mittee, which convened yesterday for probably the last time in its present structure, were still in an uproar over Haberfeld's report Wednesday that a messenger from Mapam and the Citizens Rights Movement had proposed forming a coalition without Ramon.

Yesterday, persistent rumors had Joint List leader, Binyamin Gonen, as the mysterious messenger who had insisted on keeping his identity confidential.

Gonen denied this, saying "I am nobody's messenger and it is clear to me that the Histadrut's next secretary-general should be the leader of the largest list, which means Haim Ramon."

Goldstein's widow petitions court against commission

EVELYN GORDON

THE Shamgar Commission of Inquiry into the Hebron massacre should not be allowed to publish its findings, since the judges prejudiced the results by deciding in advance that Dr. Baruch Goldstein was the murderer, a petition to the High Court of Justice demanded yesterday.

The commission is slated to publish its conclusions on Sunday. The court will hold a hearing this morning on the petitioners' request for an interim injunction against the publication.

The petition was filed by Goldstein's widow, Miriam Goldstein, and Jerusalem resident Yoel Lerner. It argued that the commission's results should be rejected because of the judges' preconceived ideas as to Goldstein's guilt.

"It seems that the first question the commission should have investigated is who committed the massacre," the petitioners wrote.

While Goldstein was obviously a prime suspect, they continued, it is possible that someone else committed the murder, or that Goldstein himself had been attacked and shot in self-defense.

Therefore, there was no excuse for the judges to repeatedly call Goldstein "the murderer" while questioning witnesses, thereby possibly influencing their testimony, the petition charged.

The petition also said the commission should not be allowed to publish unless it first investigates who murdered Goldstein. According to the pathology report on his death, Goldstein was captured alive, then stabbed repeatedly and lost consciousness before he was actually killed, his widow said.

If this is true, then those who killed him are by law guilty of murder, since self-defense does not apply once an assailant has been disarmed, the petition continued.

Goldstein's widow filed a complaint with the police, it added, but press reports later said any investigation would depend on the commission's findings.

Finally, the petition argued that since Goldstein's good name is likely to be hurt by the commission's conclusions, the judges should have sent a letter of warning to his widow, and allowed her to present evidence and question witnesses.

According to a Ma'ariv story yesterday, the commission recommended sweeping security changes at the site, such as barring Jewish worshippers from entering with weapons.

In its findings, the commission recommends filing disciplinary charges against some troops but is not seeking criminal indictments, the paper reported.

The commission also called for the deployment of special guards who should be given better equipment for searching worshippers, the paper said. Jewish worshippers, including those in army uniform, must not be allowed to enter armed, the panel recommended.



American 'bagel king' Marvin Lender (second from left) dances with Jewish Agency immigration department head Arnon (Han Osendrivo/Israel Sun)

Emanuel council head released on bail

RAINE MARCUS

THE head of the Emanuel Local Council, suspected of bribing his deputy to force him out of office, was released on NIS 200,000 bail by Tel Aviv Magistrates Court yesterday. Council head Shmuel Zeibeld, 38, was arrested by the National Fraud Squad on Wednesday.

In November 1989, Zeibeld was elected head of the eight-member council. Just over a year later, a coalition agreement was signed among Zeibeld, the Shas Party, and an independent party calling itself "The Sephardim and Oriental Community Party for Saving Emanuel."

Two deputy council heads, one of them salaried, were appointed to assist Zeibeld. By February 1993 the two were supposed to exchange positions.

According to statements given to police, the deputy who was supposed to hold the salaried position in the second half of the term of

office "did not make Zeibeld's life easy" and did not cooperate with him. Zeibeld was quoted as saying he would be "happy if he would leave."

In October 1992, said police, Zeibeld held a discussion with his salaried deputy, which included negotiations for a sum of money to be paid to the council member he wanted to leave.

They agreed to pay the man NIS 40,000 from Zeibeld's private bank account, and deposited a check as security with the local rabbi until the date of payment. After the check was deposited, the man signed a letter of resignation drafted by Zeibeld.

Shortly after the signing, the resigning council member was called to Zeibeld's office and told to collect an envelope containing NIS10,000. But Zeibeld, said police, refused to comply with the

man's persistent requests for the remaining NIS 30,000.

Police allege Zeibeld paid his deputy to resign. Under questioning, Zeibeld told police he had given NIS 10,000 to the man as a gesture for his good work. He could not explain why he deposited a NIS 40,000 check with the rabbi.

In court yesterday Zeibeld called the police request for NIS 200,000 bail "exaggerated. I have 10 children at home and I'm not going to leave the country," he said.

Judge Nira Lidsky barred Zeibeld from leaving the country and ordered him to deposit his passport with the police.

Judge Nira Lidsky barred Zeibeld from leaving the country and ordered him to deposit his passport with the police.

Belz rebbe tells followers to come to Israel

HERB KEINON

RABBI Yisrael Dov Rokeah, head of the Belz Hassidim, this week broke tradition and told his followers in Belgium to make aliya in a speech worthy of the World Zionist Organization.

"I want to ask the Jews abroad what they are doing here? Who they have here?" he said at a ground-breaking ceremony for a new educational complex in Antwerp. "Your place is in Eretz Yisrael. Why are you building palaces abroad? What about the mitzva to settle Eretz Yisrael that is applicable today..."

"True, there are countries like Belgium who host guests and treat the Jews nicely," Rokeah said. "But this is only while the Jews feel and act like guests. But once they think that we are equal citi-

zens, the Gentiles will, heaven forbid, remember that we are guests and foreigners."

"True, there was a time when our fathers did not go to Eretz Yisrael, whether because of the danger of travel or problems with Jewish education... or because of difficulties earning a living. But today, when there is work in Israel and pure education in the Holy Land that is on a higher level than in the Diaspora... There is no doubt that today there is no better place for a Jew than to settle in Eretz Yisrael."

Despite Israel's secularism, Rokeah said "there is no country that allows traditional Jewish education like Eretz Yisrael, and as the

number of Torah observant Jews multiply, so the spirituality will increase."

Yitzhak Alfasi, an authority on hassidism who edited an encyclopedia on the subject, said Rokeah's words are a "revolution." He said his statements should be contrasted with the view of the Satmar hassidim, who do not see any religious significance in living in Israel at the present time.

Before the Holocaust, Alfasi said, Belz - like Satmar - was adamantly opposed to the state.

A wave of Belz aliya should not be expected following the rebbe's speech, Alfasi said, adding that Rokeah's words will likely be received as a general call, rather than a personal directive to each and every hassid.

Jordanian businessmen met with port officials

A delegation of Jordanian businessmen visited here recently and met with the head of Haifa Port to discuss the possibility of shipping and receiving goods via the port.

They met with port manager Mendy Salzman and officials of the Ports and Railways Authority at a hotel in Tel Aviv. They also held meetings with other local businessmen.

Salzman refused to reveal any details about the meeting.

Yigal Kotzer

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Terrorist gets life for murder

RAINE MARCUS

One of the terrorists who murdered Ness Ziona farmer Moshe Becker in January was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday. Madhad Barbah, 19, of Khan Yunis, confessed to the murder and said he was proud of his deed.

The 64-year-old Becker, who was unarmed, was hacked with a saw and stabbed 15 times by Madhad Barbah and two other terrorists, as he picked oranges in his grove. Becker had collected the three at the Gan Havradim junction, where Arab laborers would wait for daily employment.

The three left the bloodstained weapons next to Becker's body and fled. Another Arab laborer working in the groves alerted police.

Barbah and Hani Abu Sita were captured shortly after the murder as they tried to pass the Erez checkpoint on their way into Gaza. The third man is apparently still at large. Abu Sita, who has pleaded not guilty to the charges, is currently being tried.

According to the indictment, the three initially conspired to kidnap and murder a soldier.

In sentencing Barbah, Judges Edmond Levy, Devora Berliner and Nissim Yeshayahu said that the defendant did not deserve to be released from prison in the future "regardless of future political agreements and solutions."

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'Neutron bomb' shakes Jewish establishment

A proposal to reinvent Diaspora-Israel relations stole the show in this week's president's forum, Allison Kaplan Sommer reports

JEWISH teenagers in the Diaspora might as well start packing their bags and renewing their passports right now. If the organized Jewish world has anything to say about it, lots of them could be coming to Israel soon.

Much attention was drawn this week to the institution-bashing aspects of Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin's proposal for reinventing the Israel-Diaspora relationship. Beilin's proposal was unveiled dramatically for maximum impact on the first day of a two-day "Dialogue with the President," hosted by Ezer Weizman.

Beilin's proposal would replace the Jewish Agency, the World Zionist Organization, and the accompanying donor-recipient relationship between the Diaspora and Israel with a more egalitarian institution called "Beit Yisrael."

The suggestion evoked an angry reaction from Prime Minister Rabin, who called the proposal "a lot of rubbish."

Predictably, there was also anger from the top brass at the Jewish Agency and the WZO.

Less strident voices suggested that even if the agencies were eliminated, the dynamics between Israel and the Diaspora would stay the same. Professor Steven Cohen of the Hebrew University, a speaker at the Dialogue on Wednesday, called Beilin's proposal a bizarre "neutron bomb" that would "destroy the buildings but leave the people in place."

As the centerpiece of his proposal, Beilin cleverly seized on the hottest idea in Jewish-Zionist circles at the moment: that bringing thousands of Diaspora Jews to Israel at an age when the trip can make a significant impact on their lives is the only way of preserving "Jewish continuity."

The central gimmick of his proposal: at age 17, every Diaspora Jew would be handed a voucher for a round-trip ticket to Israel and participation in the program of his choice.

It was for this reason that the Jewish leaders schmoozing in the

corridors of Beit Hanassi did not damn Beilin's proposal outright, though few embraced it totally. Even those who were dead set against destroying the existing institutions of US-Israel relations were enthusiastic about the concept of radically increasing the number of Diaspora Jewish teenagers exposed to an "Israel experience."

"One of the interesting concepts that were spoken about today - and I wish more effort were given to it - is this concept of partial aliyah," said Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz, a leading critic of the American Jewish community. "[It has great potential for] building partnerships, encouraging people from around the world not to necessarily think of aliyah as black and white but rather as a gradual or partial move."

Rabbi Brian Lurie, chief executive of the United Jewish Appeal, recounted in his Wednesday address the story of a 15-year-old from an assimilated household, whom he brought on a trip to Israel. It had an effect on her entire family: they eliminated the annual Christmas tree and began to light Shabbat candles; they increased their local federation contribution from \$60,000 to \$1 million; and she grew up and sent her own children to Jewish schools.

Beilin's idea for Diaspora youth lit up Weizman's eyes. He seized on the proposal because it could mean thousands of Jews considering aliyah at a young age.

Many of the participants seemed grateful that Beilin's proposal had lived up to things in the oversized living room, as Weizman lounged in an armchair at one end, while his guests perched on sofas behind him, like respectful and occasionally rebellious children.

NONE OF the speeches and debates raised any new topics. There was hand-wringing over intermarriage, the sad state of Jewish education in the Diaspora, and con-



Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, flanked by Dartmouth University professor of religion Arthur Hertzberg and Israel's consul-general in New York Colette Avital, attend this week's Dialogue with the President.

cern over the low level of identification of Israeli youth with the Diaspora.

The event demonstrated, again, that little has changed in the Israel-Diaspora relationship since the

tutions and way of life; the latter are still disappointed that Western Jews - including those who describe themselves as Zionists - aren't coming to live here.

"I think we're going to see a redefinition of [both] Judaism ... and Zionism over the next decade," said Dershowitz, who thinks the relationship between the two will also change. "This is the first time in modern Jewish history that it is conceivable that we might see an end to our persecution, that we may see a time of real success, and with success come these challenges."

Traditionally, both sides walk away from such dialogues thoroughly dissatisfied: Israeli leaders inevitably fail to receive pledges from Diaspora Jews that they will work towards mass aliyah; Diaspora Jews fail to receive a declaration that their philanthropic and political efforts on behalf of Israel are truly appreciated.

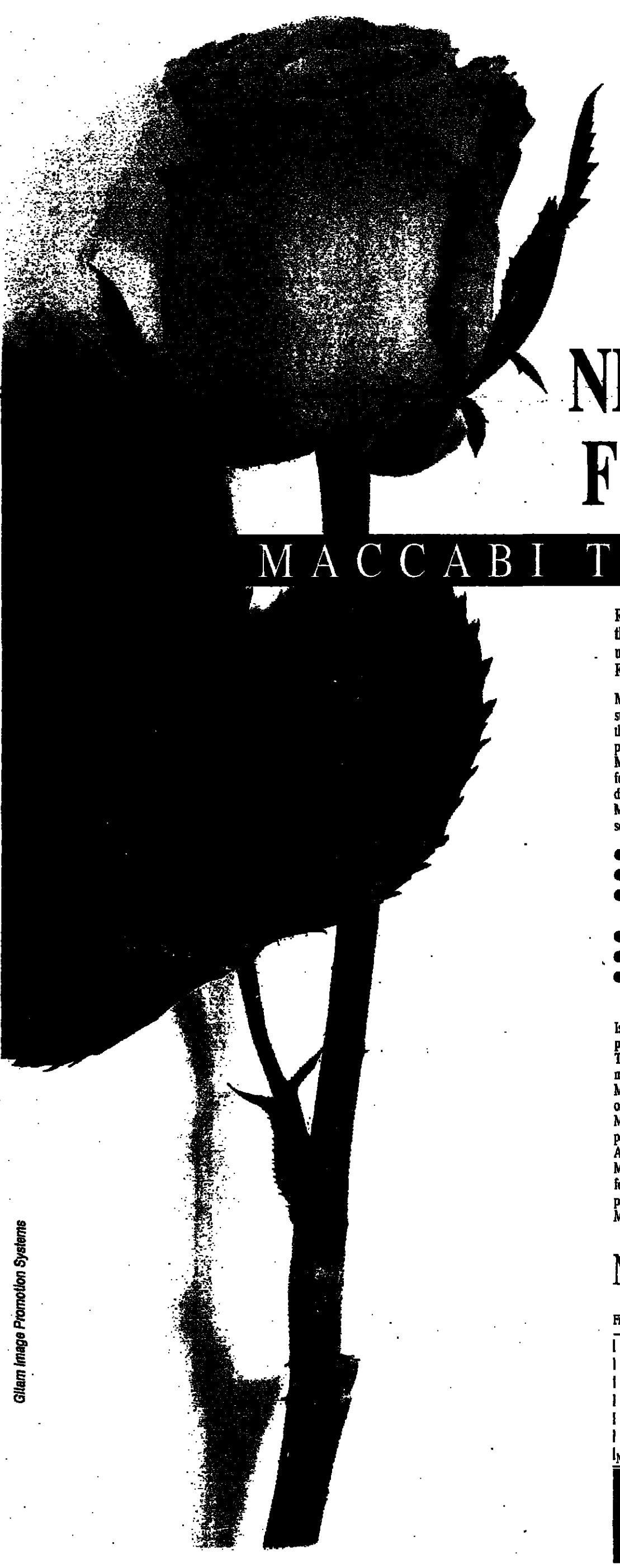
Added to this, tensions have arisen in recent weeks on the main pipeline of Israel-Diaspora interaction, the connection between the United Jewish Appeal and the Jewish Agency. Agency treasurer Hanan Ben-Yehuda dropped a bombshell when, on June 12, he threatened that if the Agency does not retain exclusivity over UJA funds, it will go out into the American Jewish community and raise its own money.

WHEN ALL THE speeches on the lawn of the Beit Hanassi had ended, the proposal to bring Jewish youths to Israel was the only substantial proposal the participants could latch on to.

"The fact is that we all want more Jews," said a participant from Uruguay. "Here in Israel, out in the Diaspora: anywhere, everywhere. Am Yisrael Hai!"

Colette Avital, Israel's consul-general in New York, expressed the same sentiments a bit more elegantly, and topped them off with a call to start fueling the El Al jets at New York's JFK Airport.

"If there's a consensus under this tent, it's on the issue of Jewish survival in modernity. Jewish continuity is indeed an issue of overriding concern. But repeating this buzzword like a mantra will not bring results," she said. "Bringing Jewish teenagers to Israel for a few weeks or a few months is not enough. You must [inspire] them with a love for Israel, and follow it up by keeping that enthusiasm alive."



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Cracking open the PLO's piggy bank

Western donor nations and some PLO members are pressing Yasser Arafat to disclose the organization's assets; he pleads poverty, Steve Rodan writes

WHEN Yasser Arafat arrives in Jericho, he will be scrutinized by financial experts of all stripes who have the same question: How much money does the PLO leader really have?

It's a question that cuts right to the heart of Arafat's argument that he needs millions of dollars immediately to begin operating the Palestinian Authority in Jericho and Gaza.

Western donor nations have pledged \$2.5 billion over the next five years for development projects, but have been reluctant to fund operating costs.

As Arafat and his top aides put it: The PLO is broke. Some Western experts and Palestinian critics argue that Arafat simply wants the West to pay for his government in Gaza and Jericho.

"Arafat just doesn't want to spend any of his money," says Rachel Ehrenfeld, the author of several books on terrorism who has investigated PLO finances.

"Arafat has \$12 billion. That's what he had before all this peace process began. Now, he has more. He has received not only money from countries, but from individuals."

However, few doubt the claims by PLO officials that the organization has been strapped for cash since the 1990 Gulf crisis, when Arafat supported the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. PLO officials say the organization found most of its Arab financial support had diminished and was forced to cut its annual budget from \$320 million to \$140 million.

Western intelligence sources say that, during the last 20 years, the organization has built up an empire of businesses throughout the Middle East, Africa and Eastern Europe that have provided it with untold hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

These include valuable property in leading European capitals, the Sierra Leone airline, a refinery and small factories in several African countries, and Swiss bank accounts. Western experts say the total worth could top \$10 billion.

The question is how many of those assets have survived the current fiscal crunch in the PLO. Maj.-Gen. Danny Rothchild, the head of the civilian affairs office which coordinates with the Palestinian Authority, says the PLO should be pressured to first list its numerous businesses.

"If the PLO has assets and money, it is only fair that it should use what it has to benefit the people."

Rothschild says. "It's not only the Israeli government which will ask the PLO to sell assets. The donor countries will also ask it to sell."

THE PROBLEM is that even Israeli intelligence is largely in the dark concerning PLO financing. Western governments, including the US, have even less information.

"It's clear that we're talking about big money," says Yigal Carmon, a former adviser on counter-terrorism to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and his predecessor, Yitzhak Shamir. "But we don't know how big."

Financial advisers to the PLO in the US have kept mum. A spokesman for the New York-based investment firm Morgan, Stanley, refuses to divulge any details about the PLO. "They are a client like any other client," the spokesman says.

Palestinians, including PLO officials, have been angered by Arafat's refusal to provide a financial accounting. They point out that Arafat spent money when it came to bolstering prestige. Last year, PLO sources say, Arafat personally authorized payment of \$130,000 to help his loyalists wrest control of Hebron University's student council from Hamas incumbents.

PLO sources say Arafat has managed to stifle serious debate about his financial control. In 1991, the Jerusalem English-language weekly *Al Fajr* ran a series that detailed the extravagant lifestyles of PLO officials. More than a year later, Arafat said he could no longer afford to give money to the paper, which subsequently folded.

US diplomats say they care more about how the Palestinian authority will spend Western aid, particularly the \$42 million pledged to operate the Palestinian Authority, rather than what Arafat has hidden away in secret accounts. Indeed, even staffers of members of Congress who have demanded that the PLO institute acceptable financial controls acknowledge they have not followed the organization's paper trail.

About two weeks ago, the Clinton administration handed PLO officials in Tunis a \$5 million check to cover immediate costs of Arafat's arrival in Jericho. "We're still waiting for an accounting of that money," a US diplomat says. "We hope we'll get one."

THE WESTERN experts who have investigated PLO financing largely agree on two points: First, Arafat has sole control of PLO assets. The second is that the PLO leader is enormously wealthy.

Ehrenfeld, who recently wrote an article on Arafat's wealth in *The Wall Street Journal* and is regarded as an American expert on the subject, puts the annual return on \$12 billion worth of PLO assets around the world at \$2 billion. These include revenues from what the author said is financial fraud, illegal arms sales, and drug dealing.

The Gulf war, Ehrenfeld says, did not cripple the PLO as much as it claimed. She says the Saudis renewed their contributions soon after the war, which was reported at the time by Arab newspapers. More funds, possibly from Iran and Libya, landed up in the PLO coffers after the PLO, Hamas and Hizbullah signed an agreement for



No one knows - but many are asking - how much Arafat is worth. (Tan Osendrives/Israel Sun)

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financial and operational cooperation in December 1992.

Ehrenfeld says Arafat was able to keep PLO operating costs down for years by obtaining benefits from host countries. These included buildings for offices along with their free maintenance. Host countries also paid for the housing of PLO fighters and representatives.

"How much money do you need to conduct terrorist activities?" Ehrenfeld asks. "Training was free in the Soviet Union, Syria, Nicaragua and Libya."

James Adams, the British author of a book about the financing of international terrorism, agrees that the sum of PLO assets continues to make it a wealthy organization. Even during the current financial crunch, he says, the PLO has maintained its valuable assets.

Claims by the PLO that it would sell its offices in European capitals have never materialized.

Still, he says, the picture is less clear than that presented by Ehrenfeld. Adams, now Washington correspondent for the *Sunday Times* of London, says the PLO drew considerably on its assets to maintain the organization after the Gulf war.

"It's not clear how much of the assets are still around," Adams continues. "The best guess is that there's still a lot there."

Adams doesn't believe the riddle of Arafat's wealth will be resolved, at least as long as the PLO chairman remains in power. "I don't see that anybody is prepared to sit down with Arafat and say: 'Unless you give us your accounting for the last 10 years, you're not going to get anything.'"

Rabin tries to keep the lid on Labor

Recent confrontations between Yitzhak Rabin and Labor are symptomatic of the party's chaotic state and the premier's vulnerability, Sarah Honig reports

RABIN-WATCHERS maintain that when the prime minister senses things aren't going his way, he can get very aggressive, and even downright offensive.

This is how he appeared this week before the 1,300-member Labor central committee, in what quickly degenerated into an acrimonious confrontation between the premier and the committee.

After Rabin declared he didn't like the committee and would make sure it was replaced before the next elections, the members reciprocated. Emotions that had previously only rumbled below the surface of the Labor Party now erupted. Delegates who had once covered before Rabin suddenly dared heckle him.

It was a Labor gathering unlike any other in recent years, and it was symptomatic of the malaise in the party. At one point Rabin got up and walked out. This was at the very same moment that his nemesis Shimon Peres chose to make his entrance.

Peres is the uncrowned king of the central committee. He is the one reputed to pull the strings of this all-important forum. Rabin indeed yelled at the members during the meeting: "I know who you are. I know who got you appointed."

The old Rabin-Peres feud is pinpointed by Labor sources as the root cause of the party's desperate problems. Peres was the chief backer of the Histadrut oligarchy that lost the May 10 elections to Haim Ramon. It was he who maneuvered Rabin into a conflict with Ramon and now Rabin is retaliating by attacking Peres's cronies and blaming them for Labor's troubles.

These troubles are abundant and weighty. The party is broke. Secretary-General Nissim Zvili announced the most austere measures Labor has ever faced, including a temporary shut-down of party headquarters and the closure of branches. The major cause is the loss of hegemony over the Histadrut which has cut Labor off from its financial life-line. Zvili estimates that the party will have to adjust to NIS 12 million annually in lost income from the Histadrut. And that's only the official figure. Labor received far more from the Histadrut than ever appeared on the books.

All this has led the party comptroller, Haim Kimche, to quit with warnings of impending anarchy. Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer openly warns that "the party is disintegrating. It is teetering on the brink of an abyss.... Our condition is critical and it will soon affect our ability to govern this country and carry on with the peace process."

IN ANOTHER challenge to Rabin's authority, party doves from the newly merged Kfar Hayarok and Mashov circles have declared what MK Avraham Burg calls "a democratic jihad against the direct

election of the prime minister." Burg and Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin - both Peres protégés - are miffed that the health portfolio went to Ephraim Sneh. To Burg and Beilin this is evidence of Rabin's ruthlessness, and has caused them to declare war against his high-handed leadership. Significantly, Peres openly supports their campaign.

Again, this issue reflects the chaotic state of the party and Rabin's vulnerability. Party members, following Ramon's example, defy Rabin openly. Curiously, Ramon's impressive Histadrut victory has emboldened the man he defeated - former secretary-general Haim Haberfeld. Now Haberfeld, too, is defying Rabin, as is Tel Aviv Workers' Council chairman Gershon Gelman, who made a coalition deal with the Likud despite Rabin's veto. Peres is said to be backing Haberfeld behind the scenes, and Haberfeld is backing Gelman.

Rabin, who originally supported Haberfeld, has now turned against him and, despite attempts this week to paper it over, a strong animosity has grown between the two.

Haberfeld calls Rabin's hostility "venomous" and reminds listeners that Rabin didn't even send him get-well wishes when part of his foot was amputated this month due to complications arising from diabetes.

The amputation could have been averted had Haberfeld checked into hospital sooner. "But that was during the Histadrut campaign and I didn't want to quit in mid-battle. Now Rabin shows how appreciative he is of my sacrifice," Haberfeld says bitterly.

It also seems that long-silent Labor hawks have finally decided it's time to be assertive, perhaps because Rabin is perceived as having been weakened. Some of them have formed the Third Way, and others the new Kfar Vitkin circle, which is violating the greatest Labor taboo by holding regular meetings with Likud MKs. What's more, Labor hawks report that they have "reached a meeting of minds" with their Likud counterparts. These are not tidings to put Rabin at ease.

As if this weren't enough, the war of succession that was being waged cautiously behind Rabin's back is now out in the open.

Ramon is considered a likely challenger for the premiership.

The lackluster middle-generation of Labor leadership aspirants are alarmed. Police Minister Moshe Shahal has tossed his hat in the ring by announcing the setting up of his own "political circle" - a faction that would help him vie for the number-one slot. Ben-Eliezer has let everyone know that he plans to do likewise.

Others in Labor have more modest ambitions. Despondent MK Rafi Edri bristles over Rabin's refusal to let him have a portfolio. Edri feels wronged and privately says that he has now joined the growing association of "Rabin's victims." The word in the party is that Edri even threatened to "tell all" about Rabin if he does not get his coveted ministerial appointment soon.

Trade and Industry Minister Micha Harish this week dared to reveal that Rabin shouts at, puts down, and humiliates his cabinet ministers.

Labor insiders complain openly of "a deep malaise" that no one knows how to cure. Expecting the closure of party headquarters next month, shaken functionaries gloomily roam the corridors and bemoan the "lack of leadership." They say that "there is no hand at the helm" and that "everyone does as he pleases."

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السنة الأولى

World Cup scores a zero with women

Israeli women don't give a hoot about the clash of soccer's titans, but some are angry about what it does to their men, Allison Kaplan Sommer writes

AMID the testosterone-charged atmosphere of the political chat show *Popolizza* this week, the priorities of the typical Israeli male were made all too clear.

The moderator, before tackling such trivial matters as the status of Jerusalem and the crumbling of the Labor Party, chose to open the show by quizzing his panelists on what he viewed as a vital issue: revealing their favorite World Cup team.

After the politicians and (male) journalists around the table had enlightened viewers with their critical analyses of the soccer tournament, the moderator, in the interest of sexual equality, turned to panelist Orit Galil for her opinion.

"Get back to me when you decide to talk about politics," the *Ha'aretz* reporter grumped wearily, looking like she could barely stifle a yawn.

This week, columnist Irit Linur — the Hebrew-speaking world's foremost expert on female disgust with male behavior — tackled the question of why Israeli men are so obsessive about soccer while women are left cold.

She offered some unflattering theories. Her main observation is that men can identify with the frustration of their soccer players: they can expend so much effort in the course of a game, and still never score a goal; and they can then take out that frustration by beating up a member of the opposing team.

"Soccer players are the filthiest, bad-spitting, testicle-scratching athletes in the world of sport — and therefore, they resemble their fans the most," Linur wrote in her weekly *Ha'aretz* column. "The players aren't too tall, aren't very handsome, not too intelligent or educated, they run around in circles a lot, but still think they are incredibly important, and what do they get out of it at the end of the day? Basically nothing. Just like a typical day in the life of a typical male soccer fan."

Linur delights in the indifference of Americans to the sport, seeing it as justification for the long-time indifference of Israeli women.

"For years, women who hate soccer have been accused of spiritual inferiority or possessing defective personalities. But now that the Americans are yawning in front of their TV screens, men have no choice but to start taking our opinion seriously."

"Girls, it looks like we've been onto something all along!"

AFTER QUESTIONING dozens of people, this reporter could not find a single woman who showed more than vague interest in the great football fetish.

"I don't know one woman who is into this tournament," confirmed Kate Assous of Tel Aviv. "My friends don't really care about football, soccer, or whatever you call it."

Female views on this world war ranged from the indifferent (women who live alone or whose "significant other" is not a rabid sports fan) to hostile and antagonistic (those whose sleep patterns are being disturbed by the late-night viewing of their boyfriends or husbands).

Here are two such confessions, with surnames deleted to protect their dignity:

• **Dalit:** "My husband has been staying up all night. Every night. He's supposed to be at the office at 7:30 in the morning, but he hasn't been waking up until 8. It's the same with every guy in the lab where he works, and they're in big trouble: they're on a deadline to finish an experiment."

"But watching the World Cup is more important."

"And forget about helping around the house. He's done nothing. He comes home from work and waits for the game to begin."

• **Sex?** Forget it. He hasn't come near me all week."

• **Tal:** "It's not just the World Cup. For us, the sports obsession is a year-round problem. When one season ends another begins: basketball, tennis, the World Cup — you name it, he's into it."

My husband's problem with the World Cup is when to watch it. He can't stay up all night so he records it then gets up at seven in the morning to see it before he goes to work, before everybody tells him what the score was.

"He tries to stay up and watch the games at night, but he just can't keep himself awake. Usually, I find him asleep on the couch and I have to carry him to bed. Then in the morning he gets upset and blames me because he missed the game!"

WHY DOES the gender gap for this event seem so unfathomable?

Moran Barak, the pioneering female sports editor at *Army Radio*, says it's not that women dislike all sports — it's just that soccer, and the World Cup in particular, is a quintessentially male experience. Women, she says, are generally drawn to individual sports, like gymnastics or tennis, or sports that are more socially acceptable in Israel for women to play, like basketball.

Ironically, in the US, where folks are notoriously indifferent to soccer, it is far more common for young women to play it.

"In Israel, soccer is a man's sport," Barak says. "There is an attitude that it's very brutal, with little in it to appeal to women. They do attend local matches, and may cheer for their local teams or the national team. But the World Cup goes beyond that."

What will Barak be watching? Sorry, fans: not soccer. She admits that, even though it is her job to cover the World Cup, she isn't wild about the event. "I like basketball better. Soccer's OK, but I'm not crazy about it. Basketball is a more intelligent sport to play and watch."



Boys will be boys, especially once every four years

Men are busy with their version of religious revivalism. Alon Pinkas took precious time off from the World Cup to explain

IN cosmic terms it may seem like a blip on history's radar screen. But for one month, every four years, we unite.

We, the men of all ethnic, national, linguistic, class, color, economic, professional or cultural groups, put all mundane talk of women, politics or cars aside and concentrate on one goal.

The goal. For one full moon orbit, we men are one people, applying our combined intellectual faculties and efforts to better understand why we are here in the first place.

For some, this writer very much included, it is a Religious Experience, perhaps even an ersatz religion.

The Church alters its site every four years (this time it's in the US), but its theological tenets, imperatives, stipulations, decrees, edicts, rules and regulations remain the same, ignoring evolution in other domains of life.

There is some adjustment of tactics, reflecting new and daring scholarly scriptures, but the 22 apostles preaching in each sermon pretty much adhere to what is expected of them — that is scoring goals to the delight of the flock.

For others, it is a once-in-four-years chance to reflect, during halftime, on the condition of their marital commitments. It is nothing short of the ultimate and demanding test of endurance of simple and basic male bonding. Win, lose or tie, together we stand, divided we fall.

It is officially and fondly called the World Cup, for temporary lack of proof of intelligent soccer-literate life on other planets.

So here we are, eyes agleam, families neglected for one month, gathering every night for the tribal ritual. Gideon and Yehuda, photographers; Zeev, a wholesale cosmetics agent; Kaufman, who is the deputy sports editor at *Ha'aretz*; Ronit (a rare gender warp), who covers education for *Yedioth Achronot*; and me.

Outside analysis is provided (via Bezek) by my father or my friend in London.

Our nourishment consists of all major food groups known to *Homo soccericus* throughout the globe. Sunflower seeds, pizza, beer, coffee and cigarettes. Basic elements, no doubt, but hardly adequate to sustain the spiritual quest.

Four years ago, and four years from now, the group may be different in its composition, but the idiosyncratic words and the professional terminology, our very own language, shared by another billion just like us (in different dialects), remains a linguistic and cultural wonder, transcending all wars, hatreds and animosities. After all, what would an Israeli sharing a cab in Rome with an Argentinian businessman talk about if not soccer?

The vexing dilemma some of us face every four years, as the games approach, is whom to support, or "root for," as the Americans, who lack the lifetime of uncompromising devotion to one team, call it.

Because of the Magna Carta, the legal system it left us, the democratic institutions, the Mandate and Arsenal (and given that Israel makes it a habit not to qualify), my historic support is ceremoniously given to England.

But due to a continental conspiracy having to do with England's opposition to European unity, they failed to qualify, losing to Norway, which gave us the Oslo Accords. So I, at least, shift my faithful support across the Irish sea to Ireland, the land of poets and green valleys. In case the Irish

fail, ever-neutral Sweden, which features two Arsenal players, awaits my sympathy.

After that it's anyone except the theatrical, annoying South Americans. They provided a safe haven for ex-Nazis, did they not? Not to mention rain-forest extinction and fascist regimes.

For other Israelis, it is not as simple. Many base their support on a historical cost-effective calculation. "What did they ever do for us?" is the common opening line.

The Holocaust figures high on the support list. Germany is a no-no, while many here perpetuate the myth that the Dutch helped Jews (the Danes did so far more conspicuously), while the Italians may be colorful, but Mussolini is not exactly a saint, nor is Berlusconi's new government. The Spanish Inquisition is not something lightly forgotten, nor are the French collaborators. But, argues Ronit, they are so cultured and chic. Yeah, adds Zeev, and untrustworthy and devious.

We all welcome immigration from the former Soviet Union, but it is hardly a reason to support Russia, which supported the Arabs for many years. But it was the USSR that virtually saved Israel with arms supplies in 1948, I said. Fine, said Yehuda, go and support them. Russia and Arsenal, a perfect match.

Which leads us to South Korea, Nigeria, Cameroon (severed diplomatic ties with us in 1973), Bulgaria (nice people), Romania (all ex-Securitate agents), Colombia (all work for the drug cartel), or Greece (remember the desecration of the First Temple?).

All did nothing for the Zionist cause, except for Romania's Nicolai Ceausescu in an episode we'd best put behind us. If you are not Argentinian, then the combination of Maradona and the melody "Don't Cry for Me Argentina" reminds us of Juan Peron, the abhorrent tyrant. And as for Morocco and Saudi Arabia, their Kings Hassan and Fahd are classic Third-World exploiters.

The congregation concludes we should support European soccer as a matter of professional and stylistic preference, but Brazil is our team. Except for Gideon and me: he studied in Germany; I stick with Ireland.

Five kilos of seeds and 14 pizza pies later, eyes red with battle-fatigue and tears of joy as Houghton scored for Ireland against the arrogant descendants of the Roman Empire (remember the Second Temple?), we break up the party.

"I have 10 hours to work, do some errands, kiss the kid and take a shower," says Zeev.

"See you tomorrow at 7:30."

"You mean today," I say.

"I mean until July," he retorts. "And if you see my wife on Sheinkin Street," he mumbles, "tell her I'll see her before the Germany — Spain game."

When I finally make it to what, last week, was my apartment, I meet a woman putting on her makeup. I recall seeing her at my wedding.

"I'm going to the opera," she says.

"Great," I faintly mutter.

"It's the premiere night of the Israeli opera," the woman known as my wife says. "Fine," I say, showing sincere sympathy. "I like the opera," she smiles.

"Don't patronize me," I unflinchingly look her in the eyes. "There are a billion of us."

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DAVID BAR-ILLAN
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It's a family affair

VOICES have recently been heard in our political arena saying we should do away with the organizations raising money in the Diaspora for Israel.

"Who needs it?" they say. "We can and should stand on our own two feet."

I understand, and to a great extent identify, with the sentiment that we should stop being a nation of *schnorrers*, that we should be independent like any other healthy nation and take care of our fate in a proud, businesslike fashion.

But while I empathize with the sentiment, I strongly disagree with the conclusion. Because we are not like any other nation. Not yet, anyway.

We need the help of world Jewry, and, maybe even more importantly, world Jewry needs us. For the time being, fundraising organizations such as the United Jewish Appeal are not just helpful and important to Israel, they are vital for the continued existence and coherence of the Jewish people.

Israel was created to be a home for the Jews - for those who need it now or who might need it in the future; for those who wish to come or who may be forced to come by changing conditions in the countries where they live.

We are currently engaged in absorbing a tremendous wave of immigration from the former Soviet Union. This is not a normal, everyday task in other nations. It is a huge undertaking of untold proportions. In sheer extent, it would compare with the US absorbing the population of all of France. It staggers the mind.

Clearly, it is not just an Israeli cause but a Jewish cause, an international one. Therefore, it is perfectly right for us to get support from Jews all over the world, and also from Gentiles. Without this help we may very well fail and miss a historic opportunity.

We are striving for economic independence, as we should be, but we can't afford to miss this chance. There is too much at stake. We need all the help we can get and we need it now.

Also, we should not lose sight of the fact that Israel is a country where a lot of what happens deeply concerns people all over the world. For instance, Jerusalem is a city holy to three religions, and what happens here is of interest to people everywhere.

We started the Jerusalem Foundation, a fundraising organization, when the city was unified in

CAPITAL TALK

TEDDY KOLLEK
with Amos Kollek

1967, for the purpose of restoration, beautification, the equalization of services among different ethnic groups, the easing of tensions, and the absorption of immigrants.

When we restored the Via Dolorosa and practically the entire infrastructure of the ancient churches within the Old City walls, we certainly weren't doing it just for ourselves. It was for the entire world, for the international community and for the sake of better neighborly relationships.

For the same reasons we created green parks around the Old City, and clinics, libraries and schools in eastern Jerusalem.

As we couldn't have done it on municipal funds alone, we were perfectly justified in raising money overseas. Moreover, it gave the individual donors a feeling of direct participation in the rebuilding of Jerusalem.

In Israel, as long as we are absorbing immigration on a great scale, and as long as we are faced with military danger, we should seek and accept help from abroad and be happy that we can get it.

But there is a much stronger reason for continuing and strengthening organizations such as the UJA - keeping alive the flame of Jewish existence. These fundraising organizations are to a great extent the major connection that many important Jewish communities have with Israel and with their Jewishness, the only remaining link in an era of growing detachment. In previous decades there was the Holocaust, the plight of European Jewry, the creation of the state. Even the Six Day War.

All those were historical events that moved people deeply, gave them a sense of identification and interest. They were what people talked about in addition to their local problems.

Immigration today, though still vital, is not as dramatic as when the British turned back ships loaded with Holocaust survivors.

We don't have that anymore. Israel is no longer a novelty. There are many other hot spots: Bosnia, Somalia, Rwanda. And amid the general movement from the ideological toward the materialistic, there is a real danger of world Jewry drifting toward rapid assimilation and insignificance.

We must strengthen ties, not sever them. Some changes are probably necessary in the management of the fundraising organizations. A bigger portion of the monies collected should be spent on Jewish education in the Diaspora, particularly in the US and England. It is not less important than giving it to Israel.

The danger is there will be no attachment left to Judaism and Zionism within a generation or two.

The UJA provides Jews with a relatively easy connection. It keeps them involved. One might ask: Why does it have to be through donations? Why can't it be strictly through business investments in Israel?

Unfortunately, not everybody can be an investor. A person who can afford only \$1,000 or \$10,000 a year cannot be an investor, but he can still make an important contribution by helping immigrant absorption. Besides, some of the most urgent and vital causes do not lend themselves to business.

The process of immigrant absorption is more than just providing houses and jobs. It is a long, drawn-out ordeal of adaptation.

Experience shows that it takes three generations for a family to really settle in. They come from a completely different cultural background, sometimes with many children, often with no profession, and almost always without means.

To integrate people of different kinds is not easy. We can see how complicated it is in Berlin, and there you have Germans on both sides of the city who were separated for less than 50 years. Nevertheless, it is estimated that it will take a couple of generations for them to grow together again. Compare this with Israel absorbing up to a million Russian Jews from different areas of the former Soviet Union, plus Ethiopians and others from all over the globe. Immigration has increased our population from 600,000 to 4.5 million in 45 years.

People who speak against Jewish organizations raising funds for Israel may not realize it, but they have no regard for world Jewry. They don't take into account the role this link with Israel plays in Jewish communities abroad.

If this link is cut off, the relationship between us and world Jewry will be much weaker. They will lose their interest in Israel and eventually we might even stop being one Jewish people all over the world.

How Palestinians exploit women

EYE ON THE MEDIA

DAVID BAR-ILLAN

THE media's failure to report human rights abuses by Palestinians is a glaring example of bias. Like the human rights organizations, the press seems to hold Arabs to a lower standard.

An exception was a harrowing story on Palestinian exploitation of women in the Hebrew daily *Ha'aretz's* supplement last Friday.

The writer, an Israeli Arab woman named Souha Araf, starts her story by quoting a 56-year-old woman who works as an agricultural laborer in a settlement: "It is better to work for Jews than for Arabs. I flatly refuse to work inside the Gaza Strip. The Arabs - what will they pay me? At best 10 shekels. The settlers give me 35 shekels and a full basket of vegetables." From this, she says she can support a whole family.

By pretending to be the wife of a PFLP prisoner in an Israeli jail, Araf managed to get a job in a Palestinian sewing shop, where she worked in a suffocating room with another seven women. Her pay for a 10-hour day was five shekels - half a shekel an hour. The tales of exploitation and hardship she tells make turn-of-the-century stories of New York's Lower East Side sweatshops seem like studies in benignity.

To her credit, Araf describes more than unconscionable working conditions. She reports on the indifference of human rights organizations to Palestinian abuses, and with brutal candor tells of the mortal danger working women have had to face from Palestinian gunmen.

Iskat, an Arabic word which means entrapment, served during the intifada all those elements that wanted to impose a conservative way of life on society. A rumor industry, which only rarely relied on any proof whatsoever, made women who worked outside their homes suspect of collaboration with the authorities. These relatively independent women, not subjected to constant supervision by the family men, were considered easy targets for sexual blackmail by collaborators and Shin Bet agents....

"In 1989, sewing-shop owner Varda Safariye was murdered, and in 1991 the Fatah Hawks murdered Na'ama Jouda, who worked in a sewing shop in Deir el-Balah.... In 1989, six women who worked in medical institutions were murdered - five nurses and one cleaning woman in a clinic - after being accused of collaboration... many nurses decided not to risk their lives and resigned.... The murder of the Abu Shawish sisters had particularly great impact."

"Aisha Abu Shawish was chief nurse and department head in the Nasr hospital; four hooded men murdered her in her home with axes. Her sister Susan Abu Hussein was murdered in the hospital." (All these nurses worked in Palestinian hospitals, taking care of Palestinians.)

Needless to say, not a word of all this has ever been mentioned in the world media.

ANOTHER HEBREW daily, *Ma'ariv*, featured a startling profile of Israeli Arab television director Nazir Hassan, whose documentary *Independence* is being screened in the Jerusalem Film Festival.

The Arabic-language film, touted as a likely winner of the prestigious Volgin prize, was edited by Yaron London for his cable television program *Document*, and produced by Jews with Jewish money. Only the direction is Hassan's.

In the interview, Hassan displays unbounded hatred and contempt for the state. No Kahanist could have done a more convincing job of describing Israeli Arabs (whom Hassan calls Palestinians who happen to live under Israeli rule) as enemies of Israel.

Interestingly - but not surprisingly - Hassan's greatest contempt is reserved for "liberals" like Meretz leader Yossi Sarid and author David Grossman, whose haughtiness and patronization he finds intolerable. (That support for the

film came from precisely such liberals bothers Hassan not at all. He had no choice, he says, if he wanted the film to be seen.)

On Sunday, the same Yaron London wrote in a *Yediot Ahronot* op-ed piece about another "documentary" shown on the cable Discovery channel. The film, *Arabs in History's Mirror*, deals mostly with European attitudes to the Arab world. Following an introductory review of European perceptions of Arabs, described as either an exaggerated romanticism à la Lawrence of Arabia, or sheer contempt like Lord Balfour's, it gets to the Palestinian chapter.

This is how London describes it: "The Palestinians were depicted as a people exploited by European colonialism through Zionism.... And what is Zionism? Not a national liberation movement, but an immigration wave of Jews escaping European fascism."

"The historian does not explain why so many Jews chose to, or were forced to, turn to Palestine. He does not tell of our historic connection to this place. There is nothing about the existence of a Jewish community in the Land of Israel before Zionism. The Holocaust, too, is altogether missing. The claim that the Jews made the barren country bloom is dismissed as political rhetoric with no basis in fact."

"There is not a whisper about the contribution of the Arab states to the Palestinians' catastrophe. All the Arab-Israeli wars were started by us. The Six Day War is an arbitrary 'Israeli invasion' into the remainder of the Palestinian fatherland, and the clashes in Lebanon are acts of [Israeli] destruction preceded by no provocation...."

"Anyone brought up on the Zionist version of history will view this film as a very intelligent Palestinian propaganda project. The credits at the end revealed Prof.

Edward Said as the creator and presenter of the film.... Said is an American-Palestinian of repute, who was a member of PLO institutions. Israeli intellectuals met with him frequently, under the assumption that common scientific terminology would facilitate political dialogue."

London says the film gave him a bellyache - but he soon got over it. The experience is useful, he concludes, especially for those who disagree with its views.

"This is the way others interpret history. Can I shed my beliefs and read history through others' glasses?" Such versions of history as Said's film, he writes, should be shown alongside *Pillar of Fire* to stimulate discussion on historiography and the media.

London's approach is characteristic of ultra-liberals. In allowing that there are different ways of looking at every event, he seems to forget that there is such a thing as a vicious lie, a propagandistic, tendentious and evil distortion of the truth.

There is no difference between Said's version of history and the Nazis' *The Eternal Jew*, the "anti-Zionist" Soviet documentaries, or the "view" held by professors and authors that the Holocaust was a hoax. Like *The Eternal Jew*, such films should, of course, be shown - but as studies in human depravity, brainwashing techniques and psychological warfare. To treat them as legitimate historic interpretations, as London does, is to betray moral and intellectual bankruptcy.

On Israel's Channel 8, the film was shown under the sponsorship of the "Open University," an institution which receives government subsidies and contributions from donors in Israel and abroad. It was not preceded by any explanation of its origin and purpose, nor was it accompanied by a Zionist film, as London suggested.

One can only wonder if Israeli taxpayers and American donors know that they are financing the showing of Soviet-type PLO propaganda masquerading as a documentary.

The disappearing Jewish people

VIEW FROM NOV
MOSHE KOHN

ON the surface, there is no difference between the reason the Habad-Lubavitch rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, gave for never coming here and the one given by a certain American Jewish woman.

At a pro-Israel fund-raising meeting in a small New England town, the woman asked the speaker if she would "have to" go to Israel when Messiah came (Dr. Avraham Avi-hai relates in his recently published book, *Danger! Three Jewish Peoples*).

The speaker replied that Jews who believe that a personal Messiah will come to redeem the world also believe that Redemption will include his leading all the Jews home to Eretz Yisrael.

The woman "blurted out, almost in tears: 'But I don't want to go to Israel! I was born here. My parents were born here. They're all buried here. I don't want to have to go to Israel.'"

As for the rebbe: Former chief rabbi Shlomo Goren relates that in four conversations he had with the rebbe, the latter gave him four different reasons for not coming to Israel (*Ha'aretz*, June 13). The first time, the rebbe told him that since becoming head of the movement in 1951, he had never set foot "outside of Lubavitch" - that is, 770 Eastern Parkway.

When Goren pointed out that the rebbe went every Friday to pray at the gravesite of his predecessor and father-in-law, Rabbi Yosef Yitzhak Schneerson, the rebbe said the Hassidim had created a kind of extraterritorial corridor between 770 in Crown Heights and the grave in the Montefiore Cemetery in Queens.

The second time, the rebbe said that once he went to Eretz Yisrael, Halacha would require him to remain, and he could not leave his Diaspora flock leaderless.

The third time, the rebbe said he had been making arrangements to go when he suddenly recalled that none of his six predecessors had ever gone to Eretz Yisrael, and he did not feel himself worthy of breaking the pattern.

When Goren reported this to Habad veterans here, one of them told him, with astonishment, that the rebbe's father-in-law had been here and prayed at the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron.

At their next meeting, their last, the rebbe told Goren:

"The sacred service of each head of Habad is linked to the holy graves of the previous heads. All the petitions that people present to us we lay at the holy

graves, and through them we activate the Divine quality of mercy. "In my father-in-law's time [after the family left the USSR in 1928], he had no ancestral grave at which to lay his prayers and petitions, because his predecessors' graves were in Russia and we had no access to them. So his only recourse was to go to Eretz Yisrael and lay the petitions at the graves of the Patriarchs in Hebron."

"We have my father-in-law's grave right here [in New York] at which we can lay all the petitions and prayers each week, so we have no need to visit Eretz Yisrael."

There, in two nutshells - that of the rebbe and that of the New England woman - is one reason for a Jew's not coming to live here: Israel is not the land where, in the words of the unofficial American anthem, their (immediate) fathers died and lie buried.

But that very same factor also serves some Jews as a spur to aliyah. Those are the Jews who wish themselves and their posterity to live in the land where they can say without flinching that it is indeed the land where their fathers and mothers - of both antiquity and recent generations - lived and died and lie buried.

The matter was put beautifully by Shlomo Grodzensky, one of the great American-Israeli literary and social critics of a generation ago. (He and his family settled in Israel from the US in 1951. He died in 1972 at age 67.)

In a 1971 radio talk on "The Privilege of Being a Host" he said that in America, "this liberal and democratic country in whose culture I was rooted, whose literature I loved, a country well deserving of the love and gratitude of its Jewish citizens," he had "always felt myself... a guest-citizen."

Coming to live here meant that he was "no longer a guest; at times I am even a host.... This, in essence, is what Zionism means to me personally. Without it I would not be a free man.... I am no longer the guest of the... foreign world, and at times I am even able to be its host, extending genuine and sincere friendship" (from the posthumously published collection of his talks and essays, *Al Kol Panim*; the above translation is by Pearl Grodzensky).

THAT NEW England woman and

the rebbe also shared a common attitude toward the role of Eretz Yisrael/Israel in the "home/exile" dialectic. She is an example of the truism that, according to Avi-hai, "Jews simply feel at home in America; at least most Jews feel at home in America most of the time."

For the rebbe, home was Lubavitch, wherever that was. Home was 770 and that mystic "corridor" between 770 and his father-in-law's grave.

In one essential respect, however, there is a radical difference between her approach to the matters of Jewish continuity and Israel/Eretz Yisrael and the rebbe's. He, in the tradition of his predecessors, performed prodigiously in fostering Jewish education everywhere, in enriching Jewish social life, in breeding the kind of Jews who would be open to heading, and did head, calls to go and live in Eretz Yisrael/Israel, and in providing material and spiritual help to those doing so.

The work of Habad/Lubavitch in this regard is a splendid example of how Jewish peoplehood and Jewish continuity can be made self-evident.

I don't know who that woman is. But I am sure that within three generations her progeny will not recall, or will not wish to recall, their Jewish origin. Furthermore, over that cemetery in which her progenitors are buried and over much of American Jewry one will be able to read the closing stanza of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's eulogy, "The Jewish Cemetery in Newport."

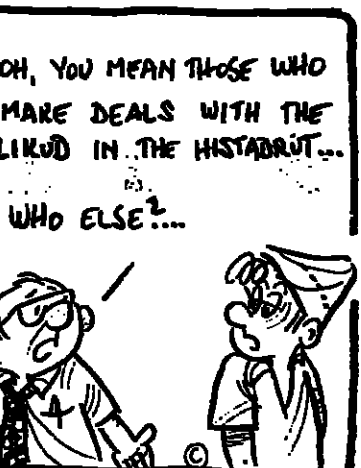
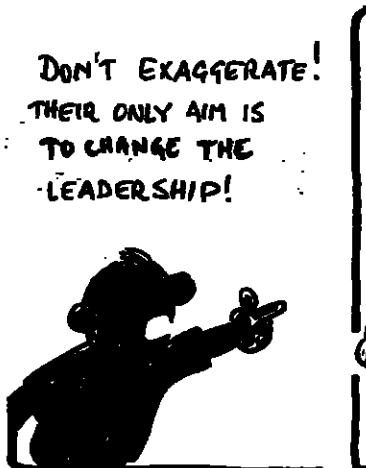
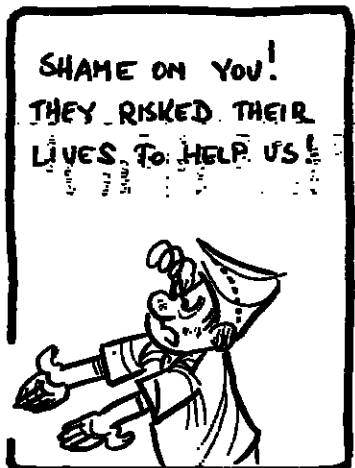
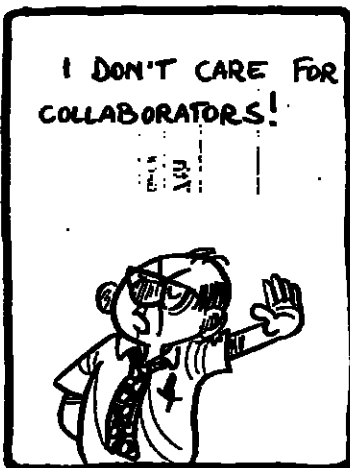
After 15 stanzas of a moving, sympathetic survey of the history of Jewish suffering at the hands of antisemites, Longfellow writes:

But ah! what once has been shall be no more! The groaning earth in travail and pain! Brings forth its races, but does not restore, / And the dead nations do not rise again.

WE ARE a constantly disappearing but not dead nation, thank God and thanks to the spiritual descendants of Joshua and Caleb, the two dissenting scouts, who urged the Jews to have faith and to dare (Numbers 13-14).

But American Jewry and the Jewries of several other diasporas seem well on their way to oblivion - except, again, for the Joshuans and Calebites among them, and except for those many tens of thousands of despised so-called "black" ultra-Orthodox Jews out of whom will come the future Joshuans and Calebites and, yes, the future David Ben-Gurions.

SRULIK



Turning curses into blessings

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHLOMO RISKIN

"How shall I curse whom God has not cursed? And how shall I denounce whom God has not denounced?" (Numbers 23:8)

SHOULD the Israelites have worried when Balaam, the greatest sorcerer of the age, was commissioned to curse them? Does our Torah believe in the power of a curse?

This week's portion of *Balak* introduces us to the world of curses and blessings. Balak, king of Moab, had just witnessed the defeat of the Amorite nation. Israel had made a simple request of the Amorites - to pass through their land - promising not to touch their water or travel into their fields. Nevertheless the request was denied. The Amorites then attacked the Jews, who turned the tables on the attackers, and in the process conquered much land.

Convinced that the Israelite military machine was invincible, Balak fears that he might become Israel's next victim. He then goes the only other route he knows - magic. He seeks out the most powerful sorcerer in the world with the goal of co-opting him to curse - and thereby defeat - the newly formed nation of Israel.

AS THE portion unfolds, we are told of all the steps taken to tempt Balaam. The reddest carpet in pagandom is rolled out; gold, silver and honor are promised in order to attract Balaam to the side of those who would destroy Israel.

Although Balaam understands that Israel has been chosen by God, and that it would be against the Divine Will to curse His people, the Gentile sorcerer does everything he can to accept Balak's offer. He finally sets out to perpetrate the evil act, when an angel with an outstretched sword blocks his path.

Balaam himself, however, is blind to the angel. Only his donkey is able to see this awesome sight, and refuses to continue the journey, despite his master's beatings. Not until the donkey engages its master in conversation are Balaam's eyes opened, and he - "prophet and sorcerer" - perceives what a "dumb" animal was able to see all along.

Declares the Midrash: "Despite the fact that the donkey is the most foolish of animals and Balaam the wisest of men, once the donkey spoke, Balaam could not withstand its message." (*Bamidbar Rabbah*, piskah 12)

Hence it would seem that in order to stop Balaam, the Torah must provide a talking ass - a miracle so unique that the Mishna in the *Ethics of the Fathers* lists Balaam's donkey among the last creations of the twilight before the first Sabbath.

Does this mean that if the Jews had been cursed by Balaam, they would have had good reason to tremble? Do we believe in the human power to curse?

According to the Torah commentary of Don Isaac Abarbanel (1437-1508), there is no efficacy to a human curse. Balaam could have reviled the Israelites from today until tomorrow without affecting them at all.

But the events of our Torah reading took place at a time when the nations of the region clearly did believe in the power of a curse. Therefore Balaam's negative utterances, even if eventually proven worthless, would have provided the nations with a psychological boost.

Clearly, it was in the Israelites' interest for God to prevent the curse from leaving Balaam's lips - not because of its inherent power, but because of the power the nations believed it had.

Joseph ibn Caspi (1279-1340) goes one step further in his biblical interpretation. He agrees that there is no objective power to a sorcerer's curse. But since the Jews were still imprinted by slavery, they could easily be victimized by superstitious dread. The last thing the Jews in the desert needed was the burden of feeling that they were a cursed nation. Therefore God, in His love for His people, preempts Balaam from instilling fear by turning the curses into blessings.

Professor Nehama Leibowitz, citing the little-known *Midrashai Torah* of Rabbi Anselm Astruc of Barcelona, explains that even if there is no objective power to a curse, subsequent Jewish history is so filled with tragedies that later generations might have traced our suffering to the words of Balaam. Were this to happen, the next step might be atheism.

I'D LIKE to consider two more ways of looking at this strange but fascinating tale of a talking donkey. First, it seems obvious to me that the central message is precisely that there is no power in the words of a sorcerer. Our portion makes it clear that the ultimate power resides with God: if He so chooses, He can close the eyes of the greatest sorcerer, and open the mouth of a stupid donkey.

All power of speech - and whatever may emanate therefrom - ultimately belongs to the Creator. And should there remain a lingering doubt as to the effectiveness of a human curse against Israel, the issue is laid to rest in the following declaration by Balaam: "Surely there is no enchantment with Jacob, nor is there any divination with Israel." (Num. 23:23)

If the master sorcerer himself claims there is no sorcery when it comes to Jacob, can there be a more direct response to the question of the power of sorcery?

There is also a second point to the story, one which speaks of the

ultimate purpose of our existence as a nation of priest/teachers.

Balaam is considered the wisest of Gentiles. It is both his innate desire and in his best interests to curse the Jewish people. Yet in the end, he who came to curse remained to bless, and not only because God forced him to. The modesty and uprightness of the Israelite encampment inspired him to such an extent that the blessing erupted from his mouth.

The Torah is therefore using this opportunity to teach the Jews one of its most important lessons: When faced with "sorcerers" whose tongues have the power to rewrite history, our task is to create the conditions that will force them to acknowledge our good deeds and modest behavior, transforming their curses into words of praise. "How goodly are your tents O Jacob, your dwellings O Israel." (Num. 24:5)

The ultimate vocation of the Jew is to sanctify God's name in the world, even in hostile environments. "I shall be made great and holy among the nations of the world," says God through the prophet Ezekiel, and the blueprint for this task can be found in our portion. There is no greater sanctification of God's name (*Kidush HaShem*) than when a hired antisemitic gun comes to grips with the tremendous contributions of Jewish civilization, as Balaam was forced to do when a talking ass helped him understand.

What a Gentile sorcerer may do or say is not really important; it is only important how we, the Jewish people, behave.

Shabbat Shalom

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Rags-to-riches tale has a dream of an ending

Multimillionaire Yosef Buchman donates money earned in Germany to philanthropies here, Allison Kaplan Sommer reports

REAL-estate tycoon Yosef Buchman was only 24 when he made his first major property deal.

He was an odd-job man, living in Frankfurt, not a likely candidate for a tycoon.

Born in Lodz, Poland, Buchman was a survivor - of Auschwitz-Birkenau and Bergen-Belsen - between the ages of nine and 15. He settled in Frankfurt after waiting three years for a visa to join an uncle in the US. Meanwhile the uncle died, and Buchman worked as a taxi driver and in the garment trade.

The big break and the big deal came in 1956, via a chance encounter with an American officer. The American, who had been among the forces that liberated him from Bergen-Belsen, was now the head of Shell in Frankfurt. He mentioned to Buchman that he was looking for investors for a 38-story building that would house Shell.

Buchman asked for three days to see what he could do. He approached a bank, which on the basis of the knowledge that Shell would be leasing the building, agreed to fully finance construction.

The timing was perfect. The cost of Frankfurt real estate did nothing but rise, and Buchman's rental income multiplied. Acquiring loans was no longer a problem.

Today, his real-estate empire stretches around the world and

makes him one of the 100 richest men in Germany. In November 1992, *Fortune* magazine estimated his wealth at \$700 million; others say it's more. Neither Buchman nor his representatives will talk about the exact figures.

Buchman, 64, who likes to be called by his Yiddish name, Yosele, says he will never forget who he was. The need to remember is what fuels his donations to institutions here. His latest contribution was a \$3 million gift to the law faculty of Tel Aviv University.

The law school has been named after his parents, Eliezer and Haya Sarah, who died in the Holocaust.

Their names will appear on everything related to the school, down to the stationery and the diplomas, according to Buchman's agreement with the university. He is childless and this is his way of passing on his parents' name.

"Having their name on this school is much more important than my name there," Buchman says.

His 11-year relationship with Tel Aviv University has focused on a scholarship fund for outstanding students and reflects his admiration, as someone who succeeded with no formal schooling, for academic accomplishment.

"I have learned that, in life, it is very important to study. I am sure that a university background would have made my life easier, in every aspect, not only in the busi-



Real-estate tycoon Yosef Buchman: Memories of his past help open his pockets for Israel.

(Israel Sun)

ness world, but in every respect. There's no doubt about it."

ALTHOUGH Buchman has dealt only in real estate for the past 38 years, the decade following the war years brought him notoriety because of the nightclubs he owned in Frankfurt and its environs. Both the German and the Hebrew press hinted the clubs were fronts for prostitution and black-market dealings.

Buchman ignored the smears. But in 1991, when a German television report accused him of having underworld connections, Buchman fought the allegation head-on. The television station, having no substantive proof for

any of its charges, came up with a letter of apology.

Asked about the allegations, Buchman says: "In Germany, I really don't care about what people say. But here it hurts, just like it hurts more if someone from your family abuses you, instead of a stranger. In Germany, I know there is a relationship between the stories and political matters in Germany, and the antisemitism that still exists there. But here, I feel hurt, because it feels like my own family saying these things."

Lately, his Israeli family seems appreciative of the \$2 million he lavishes annually on good causes. Last year, Buchman received an award from Prime Minister Yitz-

hak Rabin for generosity to the State of Israel.

Over the past 11 years, Buchman gave more than \$6 million to Tel Aviv University - before his gift to the law school. He has contributed a new \$2 million wing to Ichilov Hospital, and a new maternity wing for Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer, which will also be named after his parents.

Buchman gave \$600,000 for the fountain that adorns Dizengoff Square. During the last elections he contributed to both the Labor Party and the Likud, as well as to independent candidate Yitzhak Mod'ai. He is deeply involved in real estate here, building sheltered housing for the elderly in

Netanya, and he owns properties in Rishon LeZion and Eilat. He leases out his holdings here, as he does in Germany and the US.

"I'm always emotionally connected to the buildings. I don't sell them if I don't have to. I get attached to them like a little kid. I know the policy here is that people build buildings and sell them. I like to keep them."

BUCHMAN is close to completing a deal with the Marriott Hotels chain for a 500-room complex on prime property he owns at the corner of Frishman and Hayarkon Streets along the strip of hotels on the Tel Aviv beachfront. As soon as the municipal planning board

gives its approval, he intends to move forward with construction.

His most grandiose dream is a \$500-million project that will include a 6,700-room luxury hotel, 5,600 rental apartments and a museum - "The Buchman Museum." He wants to build on prime seaside property he owns, which currently houses the crumbling Tel Aviv Dolphinarium. Various blueprints for the project have been batted back and forth for more than five years - he is submitting the latest draft to a local architect for inspection.

A law prohibits construction directly onto the sea, with no shoreline in between. The municipality has proposed turning the Dolphinarium into a public park, and having Buchman build his hotel on an alternative site, further south, next to the Dan Panorama hotel, with a tunnel connecting it to the Dolphinarium.

Buchman still hopes to build on the seaside, without Hayarkon Street standing between his complex and the ocean. Today, his lawyers believe, he has precedents that he didn't have before. The kind of municipal permission he wants has been given in Haifa, Netanya, Ashdod, Ashkelon and Herzliya. Why not in Tel Aviv?

Buchman does not maintain a home in the city. For the past 30 years he spent three to four months a year living at the Tel Aviv Hilton. Both his former longtime live-in companion and his current girlfriend were Israelis. One of his two sisters lives in Israel, the other in Australia.

Buchman says he is perfectly comfortable taking the millions he has made in Frankfurt and investing them or giving them away in Israel, though he admits that his German neighbors are not necessarily pleased with his choice.

"Yes, it bothers some of them, but that's the reality. I act on how I feel, and the truth is that I feel attached to Israel, and not to Germany. I'm not saying I don't feel anything for Germany, but I feel more for Israel."

He says that when his dream project, on the Dolphinarium property, becomes a reality, he will move here.

"As soon as I build the hotel, I will build an apartment for myself at the top and I will stay there. Eventually it will happen."

Small firms mushrooming in Japan

WHEN Yoshinobu Ohdaira succeeded in cultivating a rare "dancing mushroom," he thought banks would be as ecstatic to lend him money as gourmets reputedly are to find the sought-after fungus.

They were not, demanding as collateral assets the 46-year-old did not have.

But last March Ohdaira's company was listed on the stock exchange in Niigata, a city of 480,000 on the Japan Sea Coast, a little over 10 years since it was founded with capital of 10 million yen (\$96,153).

The listing was largely thanks to a state-sponsored program to fertilize the credit standings of fledgling enterprises and increase their chances of winning bank loans.

Yukiguni Maitake Co was the first company to benefit from the scheme, introduced in 1992, to encourage regional enterprises to list their shares on Japan's five regional stock exchanges.

Under the program listing restrictions, such as capital require-

A government program is helping fledgling businesses increase their chances of getting bank loans, Risa Maeda reports

ments and the pre-listing consulting period, were eased.

"I wanted to list my company as soon as possible to borrow money more easily," Ohdaira said in an interview at his 14-storey head office in Muikamachi, a small town set among paddy fields and rugged mountains, not far from Niigata.

Although other smaller businesses look set to flourish this year with help from the government's recent corporate financing deregulation, it did not always look so rosy for Yukiguni Maitake.

"People called me crazy in 1986 when I built this new head office and two more four-storey factories to double daily output to

three tonnes a day," healthily tanned Ohdaira said.

"Dancing mushrooms," or Maitake in Japanese, are considered a health food here and are used in traditional dishes.

Initially, Ohdaira sold his maitake directly to a Tokyo-based supermarket in 1987, bypassing the usual distribution route through agricultural cooperatives.

Yukiguni Maitake, whose sales rose to 6.3 billion yen (\$60.5m.) in the year to March 31, 1994, from 4.6 billion (\$44.2m.) a year earlier, now has a 70 percent share of the domestic market.

The future success of other small businesses will also be

helped by the International Trade and Industry Ministry's recent easing of regulations on public loans, debt guarantees and bond issues for companies engaged in new areas of business.

From June, the Finance Ministry and the country's eight stock exchanges increased the weekly number of new exchange listings. Combined with new registrations on the over-the-counter (OTC) market, the figure is now between three and five per week.

Some 325 firms had applied for listing or OTC registration by the end of April.

Small to medium firms are also benefiting from current low interest rates - far more so than larger firms, compared with the last time Japan eased credit in the middle of the 1980s, which triggered the "bubble economy," a March report by Japan Finance Corp for Small Business said.

Japan's discount rate, the central bank's lending rate to commercial banks is at 1.75 percent, its lowest ever. (Reuters)

Market analysts: There is less going on than meets the eye

THE tumble in bond and equity prices may seem reminiscent of the crash of '87, but heavy selling in the cash markets has yet to emerge and so far the slide is futures-led, analysts said this week.

Cash prices are simply falling in a vacuum. "Where is the flow of funds? ... The answer is there isn't one," said Nick Parsons, head of the treasury advisory group at Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC).

The Financial Times/Stock Exchange index of 100 leading shares is around 15 percent down from levels at the turn of the year, while British government bonds prices are around 10% lower.

Sterling and the dollar have also suffered, down 6% and 9% respectively since January.

"The fall is futures-driven, if you've got a cash bond position you probably couldn't sell it now anyway, and if you're an institutional investor you may not even be allowed to deal in futures," Parsons said.

Futures trading is a zero sum game as participants need to square-up all positions at an expiry date. So for every winner there is an equal loser.

But prices in the cash markets,

Futures have been driving stocks and bonds lower. Cash markets will determine their direction, Phil Smith reports

where there is no delivery date, have to keep pace with futures, and market-makers are forced to mark prices lower to prevent dealers from taking advantage of easy arbitrage opportunities.

But newspaper talk of fund managers panic-selling chunks of their bond and stock portfolios is wide of the mark. The low volume in both cash markets simply does not support this view.

Also, if there was wholesale liquidation of positions, the cash would be sloshing around in the short-term money markets.

This is clearly not the case, as short-term money rates have not come down significantly, as they would if large amounts of cash were put on deposit.

"If there's all this money about, how come mark deposit rates are slightly firmer rather than weaker?" said Tony Norfield, treasury economist at ABN-Amro. "It's simply not been a case of fund managers saying, 'Oh my God! Sell all these bonds [German government bonds] or sell all these T-bonds [US Treasury bonds] and stick it in cash on deposit.'"

The June Reuter survey of global strategists showed that institutional investors are consolidating positions in primary bond and equity markets like Japan and the US, with averaged asset class holdings among contributors showing few sharp swings from May's survey.

"Funds have certainly cut positions, but given how overweight they were last year they're still holding an awful lot of paper," said Jeremy Hawkins, senior economic adviser at BankAmerica.

So why are futures falling? The answer there is less clear-cut, but it has much to do with the bandwagon effect, and perhaps the theory that it is all fear of coming inflation has been overdone, analysts said.

"What we are seeing is a rash of ex-post rationalization," CIBC's Parsons said.

It is the phenomenon of the market jumping on whichever bandwagon happens to be rolling.

"Irrespective of what bandwagon it is or what its ultimate destination is, you want to be on it for the next two stops," he said. "We were joking this morning that we had better read the papers to find out why the market did what it did yesterday."

Analysts said just as the fall has been mildly spectacular on the downside, a futures-led reversal could be just as sharp.

"If the market can be derivative-driven in one direction it can be derivative-driven in the other, but a lot of people are sitting on big paper losses," BankAmerica's Hawkins said.

"While what we have seen up to now could be unwound quite easily, the implications of it on overall investor sentiment cannot be disregarded," he warned. (Reuters)

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הסדרה מתחילה

Tricks of a marriage

BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

South dealer
East-West vulnerable

North		South	
♠	KQ5	♠	A104
♥	KQ872	♥	A65
♦	K2	♦	AQ53
♣	AQ4	♣	K98

West		East	
♠	J832	♠	976
♥	J1093	♥	4
♦	107	♦	J9864
♣	652	♣	J1073

Murray		Kehela	
♠	pass	♠	pass
♥	pass	♥	pass
♦	pass	♦	pass
♣	pass	♣	pass

Opening lead: 6♣

Murray South
NT: 2NT
3♣
5♣
6♣

Kehela North
2♣
3♣
4NT
5NT
7NT (all pass)

There was a good chance for 13 tricks. The grand slam depended merely on the heart suit dividing 3-2, which is a 68 percent chance. On this deal, however, the hearts were 4-1, and the contract was hopeless - or almost hopeless.

West led the six of clubs, won by South with the king. Murray played the ace and king of hearts and got the bad news. With 12 top tricks in honor cards, his only chance to score the grand slam was for a defensive mistake. West would never discard a heart, but East might pitch a diamond, since he was not looking at South's four-card diamond suit. If, thought Murray, he could be forced to make a vital discard before he had information about the distribution of the South hand, he might throw a diamond rather than a club.

Murray timed the hand beautifully. Because he was known to hold only three spades on the bidding, he first cashed three spades and then the queen of hearts.

At this point East was down to four diamonds and three clubs and he had a terrible problem. His partner's opening club lead could have been from a small doubleton or a small tripleton, but East didn't know which. Perhaps West should have led the deuce of clubs, even without an honor, just to tell his partner the club count. But little did he realize what would ensue.

After long thought, East decided to play Murray to hold four clubs and three diamonds. He discarded a second diamond, losing the grand slam.

The point of our new book is: How could West have helped East?

West is known to hold four spades and four hearts. His partner is dying to know which three-card minor he holds. West can reveal his longer minor via suit preference, a signal commonly used to tell partner in which suit you have strength.

It works like this: playing a high card followed by a low card shows strength in a high ranking suit; playing a low card followed by a high card shows strength in a lower ranking suit.

This time, however, the suit preference signal would not be for strength but for length! By following up-the-line in hearts and spades, West can show length in the club suit. In essence, West says he has longer clubs than diamonds and, thus, cannot protect diamonds.

This could have been a subtle use of suit preference at the highest level. Without the signal, 1,520 points flew South. Meanwhile, the Israeli East-West players have long since divorced each other and formed new partnerships.

Fourteen years later, we are still rehashing deals from this tournament. Why? Because we have just finished a new book (*A Switch in Time*) on the art of defense, including hands from that tournament.

Ironically, one of the most exciting hands we've ever seen, and one that illustrates a main theme in the book, took place in a match between Canada and Israel. Canada's longest-standing partnership, Eric Murray and Sami Kehela, scored an impossible grand slam because the Israelis (two of our top internationalists) sitting East-West were not using suit-preference signals in this situation.

The bidding was fairly intricate, but very natural. Over Murray's one-no-trump opening, Kehela responded two diamonds, forcing Stayman. Murray rebid two no-trump, denying a four-card major, and Kehela bid his heart suit. When Murray bid three spades, a cuebid in support of hearts, Kehela launched into Blackwood, asking for aces and kings. Finally resting in seven notrump.

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Sarajevo's Jews teach lessons in survival

An elderly man hauls a children's wagon filled with water cans through a silent street. A Jewish cemetery becomes the front line between Bosnian Serb and Moslem forces. Tears stream down the cheek of a young boy on an exit convoy, as he gazes through a bus window at the father he is leaving behind.

These are the powerful images captured by American photojournalist Edward Serotta, who spent last November to February living in war-torn Sarajevo, until he left with the last convoy. His photographs will be on display at Beth Hatefutsot from June 26 through mid-August, in an exhibition entitled "Benevolence in Sarajevo," curated by Margalith Bergstein.

The story documented by Serotta is not one of despair, although despair is everywhere. It's a story of hope, of a small Jewish community reaching out to help in a war not of its own making.

Serotta, who has lived for the past eight years in Central Europe documenting the remnants of post-Holocaust Jewish communities, visited Sarajevo in 1988 to photograph the city's 400-year-old Jewish community. When war broke out in April 1992, he knew he had to return, to see how that community would react to the bloody ethnic conflict.

"Would all the Jews leave?" he wondered. "Would those who remained seal their doors, letting the Moslems, Croats and Serbs fight it out among themselves?"

While approximately 75 percent of the city's Jews have left since war broke out, the fewer than 1,000 souls who remained are providing the besieged city with one of its few lifelines to the outside, doing its utmost to maintain normalcy in a world gone haywire.

"This war does not involve Jews, and the Jews had the oppor-

SUE FISHKOFF

tunity to close their doors and wait for the whole thing to blow over," Serotta says. "But they didn't. They have opened the doors of their synagogue and their community center as wide as they will go, helping their friends and neighbors on a completely non-sectarian basis."

"For the first time during a European war, Jews are reaching out to help Christians and Moslems. The Jews are in the role of protecting others. And it's all being carried out by middle-aged, middle-class people, by attorneys, accountants and architects. In my opinion, it's the most dramatic Jewish story of our time."

SEROTTA visited Sarajevo for three extended trips last winter, living with other foreign journalists and aid workers in the city's Holiday Inn, under the same siege conditions as the rest of the population. He found the experience "extremely depressing and emotionally debilitating." He adds: "It's a glorious European city brought to its knees, crumbling and dying before your eyes."

His photographs chronicle the decay. The city's historic Jewish cemetery, which he shot first in 1988, is shown in a recent photograph as the front line between Serbian and Moslem forces. "Jews are now being buried in city parks, like everyone else," he says.

A courtyard in the University Library appears first in a 1988 photograph, and then again this year as little more than a bombed-out shell. The city's Jewish Museum has been boxed up, and stands silent.

The renowned Sarajevo Hagadah, sold years ago by a Jewish collector to the city of Sarajevo, is

kept in a nuclear bomb-proof vault. Serotta says the president of the Jewish community has an open invitation to examine it, "but he's the only one."

In the midst of the mayhem, the city's Jews, most of them Holocaust survivors and their offspring, have mobilized their social organizations and existing infrastructure to keep themselves and their neighbors alive. The community's main aid organization, "La Benevolencia," is providing the help, with financial support from the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the Central British Fund for World Jewish Relief, among others.

Since the siege began last fall, the Sarajevo Jewish community has, Serotta says, given away 380 tons of food, including 110,000 hot meals; maintained mail links with the outside, handling more than 100,000 letters; set up a two-way radio so Sarajevans can contact other cities; set up a free medical clinic that has seen 2,900 patients, and whose volunteer doctors and nurses have made 650 house calls; and, most dramatically, has taken 2,300 people out of Sarajevo on 11 separate convoys. Just 1,000 of those rescued were Jewish.

"In Sarajevo, in the same streets and synagogue where the Holocaust took place, you have a small group of Jews teaching their neighbors the lesson they've been learning for centuries," Serotta says. "How to survive."

When the postal system broke down, the rescue convoys organized by the Joint became the only means for mail to move in and out of the city. The letters go to the Jewish community center, where volunteers sort them. If a phone number is on the envelope, they call the person for whom it is intended. If not, the addressee's name is entered in the community

center's computer bulletin board, where it can easily be accessed when people stop by to ask whether they've received any mail.

THE COMMUNITY is meticulous about maintaining its neutral political status, which it needs not only to survive, but also to negotiate safe passage for rescue convoys with all the warring factions. Some of Serotta's most moving photographs detail the last convoy in February of this year, when 296 mostly elderly and infirm people were moved out of the city in six busloads that had to pass through four separate front lines.

"The Jewish community opened its doors to me on condi-

tion that my exhibition and book remain apolitical," he explains. "I'm interested in the greater good being carried out by the community, which depends on its maintaining good relations on all sides."

During his stay in Sarajevo, Serotta became close to two young boys who used to help distribute food and water in the Jewish community center, Denis Karalic, now 14, and Radislav Bozovic, 12. Both boys were among the 116 Jews and friends who were brought to Israel by the Jewish Agency after escaping from Sarajevo in February. They now live in the Mevasseret Zion Absorption Center, learning Hebrew and

adjusting to a new home.

For Denis, who is half Moslem and half Polish Catholic, Israel is his third country and Hebrew the third language he's had to learn in his young life.

"As a European Moslem who's never been in a mosque except on a school trip, he's having some difficulties living in Israel," Serotta says. The boys dog Serotta's every step, accompanying him whenever they're not in school, and the photographer says he'll have a hard time leaving them next month, when he returns to his home in Berlin.

Serotta's photographs of the boys are some of the most dramatic and moving in the exhibition.



Tear-streaked Denis Karalic departs Sarajevo — on his way to a new life in Mevasseret Zion. (Edward Serotta/Beth Hatefutsot)

The shot of Denis's tear-streaked face as he leaves his father behind last February contrasts strikingly with a later picture of the young boy exuberantly leaping into the sea on the Yugoslav coast, after the convoy broke through enemy lines. Just as one picture documents the tragedy of war, so does the other celebrate freedom.

"But I am not proud of these pictures," Serotta writes in the accompanying text to his exhibition. "Photography feeds on the misery of others."

A photography book documenting his Sarajevo experience, *Survival in Sarajevo*, will be published in October by Brandtetter press in Vienna.

Current affairs may have caught up with TV talk-show host

GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

FIRST it happened to his colleague, Dudu Topaz. Now television current-affairs talk-show host Gabi Gazit is facing the possibility of being classified

as an unmarried father. A paternity suit has been filed against Gazit in the Tel Aviv district court by Michal Galili, a 25-year-old hotel employee. Galili, who is four months pregnant, claims not to have been intimate with anyone other than Gazit for the best part of a year. Gazit has rejected the claim.

LIKUD MK Sylvan Shalom has a load on his hands. His wife Judy Shalom-Nir-Mozes presented him with twins, Tomer and Shira. Shira empathized when Tomer was inducted into the faith this week. She cried.

FRESH FROM visiting with Egyptian President Hosni Mu-

barak is James T. Coffey, managing director of Quaker State Oil and president and goodwill ambassador of the International Association of Lions Clubs. Accompanied by his wife Betty, Coffey came to witness the Israel district's changing of the guard.

Industrialist Israel Nochem this week formally took over from

Rami Arad as district governor of the Lions Clubs at a festive ceremony at the Tel Aviv Country Club. Nochem will next month head the Israel delegation at the annual IALC meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. Major Lions projects in this country are the cornea bank at Ichilov Hospital, the training center for guide dogs for the blind at Moshav Beit Oved, and an institution for the retarded in Jerusalem.

THE TEL AVIV Community Theater (TACT) production of *Shindele*, by local playwrights Rami Danon and Amnon Levi, won the Adjudicator's Award at the International Amateur Theater Festival in Dundalk.

"We were all enchanted by the beauty of Ireland and the warmth of the welcome we received there and later in England," said *Shindele* director Helen Eleasari. "The fact that audiences liked and had no difficulty understanding the play made the whole experience even more exciting."

"All of us were pleased and proud that an Israeli production did so well," added Eleasari, who is better known to *The Jerusalem Post* readers as cultural-affairs reporter Helen Kaye. The play was presented here and abroad by permission of the Cameri Theater.

AT THE Tel Aviv Sheraton, Anis Salama and Tamy Dowd, president and public-relations director respectively of the Egypt Hotel Association, did a double take when they realized that their belated welcome was none other than the hotel's general manager Clement Hassid. No, the hotel hasn't fallen on hard times, and Hassid hasn't been demoted. It's all part of an ongoing plan to get everyone to understand the nuts and bolts of everyone else's job by switching roles for a day. This week controller Rafi Inbar spent a day working in the maintenance department; Tony Salinger, director of human resources, discovered the highs and lows of working as a waitress in room service; and public-relations director Wendy Geri donned an apron to work as a lobby lounge waitress.

NEWLY ELECTED president of the Zionist Federation of Australia, Ann Zablad, has made history twice over. She is the first woman president of the ZFA, and the first ZFA president to take on a role previously held by her spouse. Her late husband Robert Zablad headed several Zionist organizations, including the ZFA.

Currently in this country to attend meetings of the Zionist General Council and the Jewish Agency general assembly, Ann Zablad



'Shindele' director Helen Eleasari, better known as 'Post' reporter Helen Kaye, is pleased at the production's positive reception. (K. Kalmanovitz)

has an impressive Zionist record of her own. A WIZO member for four decades, she is a past president of the WIZO Federation of Australia and a life member of the WIZO executive. She has also been the chairperson of the Women's Division of the United Israel Appeal and co-chairperson of the Coordinating Committee of Jewish Women's Organizations.

Zablad succeeded Mark Leblum, who held the position during a decade which witnessed a landmark change in Australian citizenship laws, enabling Australians to become Israeli nationals without risk of being stripped of their Australian citizenship.

ADVISED ON Diaspora Jewry to prime ministers Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir, Harry Hurwitz, former editor of *The Jewish Herald*, which was the only mid-week Jewish paper in South Africa, this week launched his book *Begin: A Portrait*, at a reception at the Laronne Hotel in Jerusalem hosted by Kent E. Schinner, international president of B'nai B'rith.

EMOTIONALLY overcome at the sight of so many old friends and former pupils who gathered at the home of Jonathan and Hanna Schenk to celebrate the release of his book *Trials and Challenges*, Rabbi Dr. Elchman Blumenthal, senior lecturer in Talmud and Ethics at the Jerusalem Academy of Jewish Studies, forgot all the humorous anecdotes he prepared. One of his favorites, which he tells often and which appears in the book, is about the mentality of his congregants in Cape Town.

Soon after his arrival in South Africa in 1949, he was approached by the head of the congregation's

executive board, who asked him to designate the hour at which it would be convenient for him to hold fixed meetings with the executive. Blumenthal replied that any time would be fine other than between 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., which was the time he had set aside for learning. He subsequently learned that the man had complained to his colleagues: "We thought we were getting the certified rabbi they had recommended in London, and what do we find out? That he still has to study!"

UNLIKE THE Habad Hassidim, the Zanz Hassidim had no problem this week in appointing a successor to the Klausenberger-Zanz rebbe, Rabbi Yekutiel Halberstam, who died over the weekend. His elder son, Rabbi Zvi Elimelech Halberstam, was named Klausenberger-Zanz rebbe immediately after the funeral on Sunday, while his younger son, Rabbi Shmuel David Halberstam, will be the leader of the Klausenberger-Zanz Hassidim in the US.

The previous rebbe, who became a great-grandfather on the day preceding his demise, blessed his grandson only hours before he died. Whereas Israeli Habadniks who frantically flew to New York last week to mourn Lubavitcher Rebbe Menachem Mendel Schneerson arrived too late for the funeral, Halberstam's funeral was delayed until the arrival here of his American Hassidim.

CLOSE TO 50 years ago, hotelier, industrialist, land developer and oil prospector Yekutiel Federmann was pulling illegal immigrants out of the water on the Tel Aviv beachfront. Now, he's providing a means for some of their grandchildren to receive a better education. Federmann's gift to the Technion on the occasion of its 70th anniversary was a \$500,000 grant to establish a chair in civil engineering in memory of his old friends David Hacohen and Hillel Dorn, who in 1924 were among the founders of Solel Boneh, which played a major role in the development of the state.

HIS WIFE Michelle's birthday party was something he knew about before he went to Tunis, and there was an element of doubt as to whether he would be able to attend. But Zvi Mazel, the Foreign Ministry's deputy director-general for African affairs, was well aware that diplomacy on the domestic front was no less important than diplomacy abroad. He made it home with barely an hour to spare before the arrival of the guests.

SOCIETY HAIRDRESSER Shuki Zikri, 33, on Monday waved farewell to his bachelor status to curl up permanently with 25-year-old doctoral student in criminology Geula Alman. The couple set the seal on their union at a stylish affair at the Tel Aviv Hilton attended by 800 guests.

ALSO DISAPPEARING from the list of eligible bachelors is Likud MK David Mena, who at the end of the summer will wed Haya Hirsh, spokesperson for the Beit She'an local council.

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